



# MESSAGES OF THE PRESIDENT GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

2001-2010

**BOOK 14 | VOLUME 4**

Executive Orders Part 2









President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, Fourteenth President of the Philippines  
and Fourth President of the Fifth Republic.





**MESSAGES OF THE PRESIDENT**

**GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

**2001-2010**

**BOOK 14 | VOLUME 4**  
Executive Orders Part 2

# Messages of the President Book 14: Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo

## Volume 4 Part 2

Presidential Communications Development and Strategic Planning Office

<http://www.gov.ph>

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## INTRODUCTION

As the President's chief message-crafting body, the Presidential Communications Development and Strategic Planning Office (PCDSPO), is mandated to provide strategic communication leadership and support to the Executive Branch, its composite agencies, and instrumentalities of government.

The PCDSPO is also mandated to act as custodian of the institutional memory of the Office of the President. One of our projects is the continuation of the series of books called the Messages of the President, started in 1936 by Jorge B. Vargas, Executive Secretary to President Manuel L. Quezon. The series was a wide collection of executive issuances, speeches, messages, and other official papers of the President. The volumes were intended to serve as the definitive compilation of presidential documents. The series was continued until the Quirino administration, although the series for the Presidential administrations of Presidents Quezon, Roxas, and Quirino were never completed.

In 2010, President Benigno S. Aquino III ordered the revival of the series and the constitution of a complete set, covering all 15 presidential administrations. With pride, we continue what Vargas began.

We would like to extend our gratitude to our partners for without whose gracious cooperation, this project would have not been possible.

A note on organization: Each presidential administration's messages are in book form, compiled and subdivided into volumes. The books are as follows:

- Book 1: Emilio Aguinaldo
- Book 2: Jose P. Laurel
- Book 3: Manuel L. Quezon
- Book 4: Sergio Osmeña
- Book 5: Manuel Roxas
- Book 6: Elpidio Quirino
- Book 7: Ramon Magsaysay
- Book 8: Carlos P. Garcia
- Book 9: Diosdado Macapagal
- Book 10: Ferdinand E. Marcos
- Book 11: Corazon C. Aquino
- Book 12: Fidel V. Ramos
- Book 13: Joseph Ejercito Estrada
- Book 14: Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo
- Book 15: Benigno S. Aquino III

Each book is subdivided into the following volumes:

- Volume 1: Official Weeks/Months in Review
  - Volume 2: Appointments and Designations
  - Volume 3: Historical Papers and Documents
  - Volume 4: Executive Orders
  - Volume 5: Administrative Orders
  - Volume 6: Proclamations
-

Volume 7: Other issuances

Volume 8: Cabinet minutes

We hope that this collection will be a useful and vital reference for generations to come.

## PREFACE

On July 30, 2010, President Benigno S. Aquino III issued Executive Order No. 4, which effectively renamed what was previously called the Malacañang Museum into the Presidential Museum and Library (PML) and placed it under the supervision and control of the Presidential Communications Development and Strategic Planning Office (PCDSPO). The PML is responsible for preserving, managing, and promoting the history and heritage of the Philippine presidency. It is the principal historical and artistic repository in support of the institution of the presidency, for the benefit of the Republic and the Filipino people. In partnership with the PCDSPO, which has pioneered the publication of the Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines as a web archive and information website, the PML has taken this mandate and placed it on the cutting edge of the information age.

Much has been done over the past years, under the administration of President Aquino III, to digitize executive issuances, speeches, letters, and other presidential papers; and publish them online. The project is not limited to a single administration, nor does it discriminate. This collection, published as databases, as well as print and e-publications, includes documents from the presidency of Emilio Aguinaldo to the current Aquino administration. This represents the government's allegiance to transparency, continuity, and the fostering of an informed citizenry, as well as an effort, in earnest, to preserve the institutional memory of the Presidency. All this was done not just for the posterity, but for the current generation and the ongoing task of nation building.

The PML are proud partners of the Official Gazette and PCDSPO team, to whom we made the collections available. We sincerely hope that this series will serve as a vital reference to educators, students, journalists, lawyers, historians, and the public at large.





## FOREWORD

This is the fourth volume of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's official papers, which constitutes the 14th book of the Messages of the President series. The series was started in 1936 by Executive Secretary Jorge B. Vargas, during the first year in office of Manuel L. Quezon, the first President of the Commonwealth of the Philippines. This volume collects President Arroyo's Executive Orders, which provide for rules of a general or permanent character in implementation or execution of constitutional or statutory powers.



## BOOK 14

### PRESIDENT GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo was the fourteenth President of the Philippines and was the fourth President of the fifth Republic. She assumed office on January 20, 2001, serving the remainder of the term of her predecessor Joseph Ejercito Estrada. President Macapagal-Arroyo was re-elected to a full second term in May 10, 2004. She was President until June 30, 2010.

The Executive Issuances of President Macapagal-Arroyo began with Memorandum Circular No. 1 signed on January 30, 2001 and ended with Proclamation No. 2111 and Executive Order No. 910 which were both signed on June 29, 2010.

President Macapagal-Arroyo's documents were gathered from its official sources such as the Official Gazette of the Philippines; Malacañang Records Office's Book of Executive Issuances; SONA Technical Report; A Compilation of Selected Presidential Speeches of Her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo; Strong Republic: Selected Speeches of President Macapagal-Arroyo; and from the website archive.org.

The American Psychological Association (APA) style was used for the citation. The titles that have been provided by the researchers are enclosed in square brackets, considering that the exact wordings and its order were not verbatim from the document being described. Book titles are italicized while the speech titles are not. If in any case that the book title is the same as the title of the speech, it is transcribed in italics because it is the book title.



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President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo leads the invocation before the commencement of the meeting of the National Competitiveness Council (NCC) and Export Development Council (EDC).





**MESSAGES OF THE PRESIDENT**

**GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

**2001-2010**

**BOOK 14 | VOLUME 4**  
Executive Orders Part 2



President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo prays before the monument of national hero Jose Rizal after offering a wreath during the 111th anniversary celebration of Rizal's martyrdom in fitting ceremonies Sunday (December 30) at the San Fernando City Plaza in San Fernando City, La Union.

## EXECUTIVE ORDERS

An Executive Order provides for rules of a general or permanent character in implementation or execution of constitutional or statutory powers. The Executive Orders of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo began on February 20, 2001 with Executive Order No. 1 and ended on June 29, 2010 with Executive Order No. 910.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 177**

**TRANSFERRING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STUD BOOK OF THE THEN NATIONAL STUD FARM, FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND RE-ASSIGNING IT TO THE PHILIPPINE RACING COMMISSION**

**WHEREAS**, the National Stud Farm, created under RA 4618, dated June 19, 1965, has already been integrated with the other units and agencies of the Department of Agriculture, by virtue of Executive Order (E. O.) No. 281, dated August 22, 2000, and E. O No. 296, dated October 3, 2000.;

**WHEREAS**, one of the major remaining activities of the National Stud Farm, being maintained by the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture, is the Philippine National Stud Book;

**WHEREAS**, the maintenance of the Philippine Stud Book is still an important process in the registration of racehorses in the country, and needs to be strengthened and given a certain degree of autonomy and discretion;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine Racing Commission was created pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 420 aimed at raising public confidence in the sport of horse racing, among others;

**WHEREAS**, under the Administrative Code of 1987, the President has continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the President in order to attain simplicity, economy and efficiency.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** *Transfer of the Philippine National Stud Book to the Office of the President.* The operations relevant to the maintenance of the Philippine National Stud Book, including the appropriate personnel, assets and resources, is hereby transferred from the Department of Agriculture to the Office of the President, and then re-assigning it to the Philippine Racing Commission.

**SEC. 2.** *Rules and regulations to Implement the Transfer.* The Secretary of Agriculture and a Senior official from the Office of the President shall formulate the rules and regulations to implement the transfer of the Philippine National Stud Book, and re-assignment thereof to the Philippine Racing Commission.

**SEC. 3.** *Repealing Clause.* - All Executive Orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order, are hereby revoked or modified accordingly.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 17th day of **February**, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 178**

FURTHER DEVOLVING TO THE AUTONOMOUS REGIONAL GOVERNMENT OF THE  
AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO CERTAIN POWERS AND FUNCTIONS  
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE  
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 425, SERIES OF 1991

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 425, Series of 1991, issued pursuant to Republic Act No. 6734, effected the devolution to the Autonomous Regional Government (ARG) of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) certain powers and functions of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), including the control and supervision over its offices, programs and projects in the ARMM;

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 9054 was enacted into law on March 31, 2001 in order to strengthen and expand the Organic Act for the ARMM, and the same was ratified on August 14, 2001 with the addition of the Province of Basilan (except Isabela City) and City of Marawi to the original four provinces comprising the ARMM;

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the National Government to devolve, as far as practicable and consistent with the Constitution and Republic Act No. 6734, as amended by Republic Act No. 9054, as many functions and powers of national government agencies to the ARG;

**WHEREAS**, the devolution of powers and functions of the National Government to the ARG is part of the government's peace process to find ways and means for a durable and lasting peace in Mindanao; and

**WHEREAS**, the Oversight Committee created pursuant to Republic Act No. 9054 deemed it imperative to further devolve certain powers and functions of DOST to the ARG.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Transfer of Powers and Functions.*** --- In addition to the powers and functions of the DOST previously devolved to the ARG pursuant to Executive Order No. 425 (Series of 1991), the following powers and functions are hereby devolved from DOST to the ARG:

- a) Administration of Scientific and Technological (S&T) Scholarships, Awards and Grants;
- b) Development and Improvement of S&T Education and Training;
- c) Administration of S&T Incentive and Career System;
- d) Conduct of Research and Development (R&D) on Information Technology and Advanced Fields; and
- e) Venture Financing.

The identification and selection of scholars through nationwide competition shall be retained by the DOST National, while implementation and management thereof shall be undertaken by the ARG.



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**SEC. 2. *S&T Programs and Projects.*** Consistent with the devolved powers and functions, the ARG shall formulate and develop S&T programs and projects, such as but not limited to the following:

- a. Technology Transfer, Promotion and Commercialization;
- b. Research and Development;
- c. Science and Technology Services;
- d. S&T Culture;
- e. S&T Manpower and Infrastructure;
- f. Information Systems and Data Bank;
- g. S&T Institutional Linkages; and
- h. S&T Advocacy.

**SEC. 3. *Planning and Programming.*** DOST shall involve DOST-ARMM in all its planning and programming activities to ensure that DOST-ARMM priorities are taken into account and the standards are in accordance with the National S & T Plan.

**SEC. 4. *Coordination of Programs and Projects.*** For purposes of developmental activities in the region and to ensure consistency with the National S&T plan, the DOST-ARMM shall:

- a. Coordinate with the DOST and DOST Councils and Institutes for technical assistance requirements and for S&T related activities;
- b. Be involved in the S&T programs and projects that are implemented in the region (planning, programming and implementation stages) of DOST and DOST Councils and Institutes; and
- c. Be a member of the Mindanao DOST Cluster Organization (MindaDOST) as a component region in Mindanao.

**SEC. 5. *Personnel.*** The following rules shall govern the personnel of the DOST assigned in the Province of Basilan, except Isabela City, and the City of Marawi:

- a. All plantilla positions, filled and unfilled effectively assigned to, or with the Province of Basilan, (except Isabela City) and Marawi City as their official station, shall be placed immediately under the control and supervision of the ARG.
- b. Personnel absorbed by the ARG shall retain their seniority rights, compensation, and other benefits in accordance with Civil Service laws, rules and regulations.
- c. Personnel declining to be absorbed by the ARG shall have the following options:

c.1 Retirement – All affected personnel qualified for retirement may elect retirement, as may be provided by law. All benefits, including payment of accrued leave credits, that may be lawfully given to affected employees by virtue of their transfer, retirement or separation from service shall be paid within one (1) month from the filing of the necessary clearance and other pertinent documents.

c.2 Transfer – Affected personnel shall be given priority in hiring for existing vacant positions in other government agencies, subject to compliance with established qualification standards set by the receiving agencies.

c.3 Resignation – Separated personnel not eligible for retirement under existing laws shall be entitled to all benefits provided under existing Civil Service Laws.

**SEC. 6. *Assets, Equipment and Budget.*** All assets, equipment, budgetary allocation and properties being utilized or programmed for use for the Province of Basilan and the City of Marawi shall be turned-over to the ARG of the ARMM, with the exception of the budget allocation for teacher training which is fixed at the national level.

**SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules.*** DOST, in close coordination with the ARG, shall issue implementing rules and regulations to effect the devolution and turn-over within ninety (90) days from effectivity of this Executive Order.

**SEC. 8. *Date of Transfer.*** The DOST shall effect full transfer of its functions, personnel, assets, equipment and budget within 90 days following the effectivity of this Executive Order.

**SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.*** All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed, modified and amended accordingly.

**SEC. 10. *Effectivity.*** This Executive Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a national newspaper of general circulation and one local newspaper of general circulation in the ARMM.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 27<sup>TH</sup> day of February, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

**Source: Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). [*Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 179**  
PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GREATER MANILA MASS TRANSPORT SYSTEM

**WHEREAS**, Metro Manila continues to be the center of employment opportunities, trade and commerce of the Greater Metro Manila area;

**WHEREAS**, the traffic situation in Metro Manila has affected the adjacent provinces of Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna, and Rizal, owing to the continued movement of residents and industries to more affordable and economically viable locations in these provinces;

**WHEREAS**, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) is tasked to undertake measures to ease traffic congestion in Metro Manila and ensure the convenient and efficient travel of commuters within its jurisdiction;

**WHEREAS**, a primary cause of traffic congestion in Metro Manila has been the numerous buses plying the streets that impedes the flow of vehicles and commuters due to the inefficient connectivity of the different transport modes;

**WHEREAS**, the MMDA has recommended a plan to decongest traffic by eliminating the bus terminals now located along major Metro Manila thoroughfares and providing more convenient access to the mass transport system to the commuting public through the provision of mass transport terminal facilities that would integrate the existing transport modes, namely the buses, the rail-based systems of the LRT, MRT and PNR and to facilitate and ensure efficient travel through the improved connectivity of the different transport modes;

**WHEREAS**, the national government must provide the necessary funding requirements to immediately implement and render operational these projects; and extend to MMDA such other assistance as may be warranted to ensure their expeditious prosecution.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**Section 1. THE PROJECT.** - The Project shall be identified as the **GREATER MANILA TRANSPORT SYSTEM** Project.

**Section 2. PROJECT OBJECTIVES.** - In accordance with the plan proposed by MMDA, the project aims to develop four (4) interim intermodal mass transport terminals to integrate the different transport modes, as well as those that shall hereafter be developed, to serve the commuting public in the northwest, north, east, south, and southwest of Metro Manila. Initially, the project shall concentrate on immediately establishing the mass transport terminals for the north and south Metro Manila commuters as hereinafter described.

**Section 3. PROJECT IMPLEMENTING AGENCY.** - The **Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA)**, is hereby designated as the Implementing Agency for the project. For this purpose, MMDA is directed to undertake such infrastructure development work as may be necessary and, thereafter, manage the project until it may be turned-over to more appropriate agencies, if found suitable and convenient. Specifically, MMDA shall have the following functions and responsibilities:

- 
- a) Cause the preparation of the Master Plan for the projects, including the designs and costing;
  - b) Coordinate the use of the land and/or properties needed for the project with the respective agencies and/or entities owning them;
  - c) Supervise and manage the construction of the necessary structures and facilities;
  - d) Execute such contracts or agreements as may be necessary, with the appropriate government agencies, entities, and/or private persons, in accordance with existing laws and pertinent regulations, to facilitate the implementation of the project;
  - e) Accept, manage and disburse such funds as may be necessary for the construction and/or implementation of the projects, in accordance with prevailing accounting and audit policies and practice in government.
  - f) Enlist the assistance of any national government agency, office or department, including local government units, government-owned or controlled corporations, as may be necessary;
  - g) Assign or hire the necessary personnel for the above purposes; and
  - h) Perform such other related functions as may be necessary to enable it to accomplish the objectives and purposes of this Executive Order.

**Section 4. *SCOPE OF THE PROJECT.*** - The Project shall initially establish two (2) terminals to be located at:

- a) The **NORTH Terminal.** – This component shall develop the easement area along the northbound portion of EDSA, from East to North Avenues, into bus terminal parking areas, to service passenger buses going to and coming from the northern provinces. This will require the temporary use of 24 meter depth frontage areas of properties of certain government agencies/entities located between North and East Avenues.
- b) The **SOUTH Terminal.** – This component shall develop the easement area at the ground level of the Magallanes Interchange and the easement areas on the westbound portion of the South Luzon Expressway from EDSA to Gil Puyat Avenue (Buendia), into bus terminal parking areas, to service passenger buses going to and coming from the provinces south of Metro Manila. This will require the temporary use of all vacant areas between the South Luzon Expressway and the existing PNR railroad.

In the medium range, the project shall endeavor to develop two (2) other terminals each to be located at:

- c) The **EAST Terminal.** – This component shall develop a suitable portion of the Marikina Riverbank area into bus terminal parking areas, to service passenger buses and other land transport modes going to and coming from the provinces East of Metro Manila.
- d) The **SOUTHWEST Terminal.** – This component shall develop a suitable portion of the PEA property along the Coastal Road area into terminal parking areas for buses and other land transport modes, to service commuting passengers going to and coming from the Provinces of Cavite and farther south.

**Section 5. *LAND USE.*** - All agencies and/or entities of the government, owning properties along the EDSA and South Expressway corridors indicated in Section 4 hereof are hereby directed to coordinate with MMDA and immediately allow, make available for use as may be required, and

to subsequently transfer portions of their property fronting the corridors herein specified, in order to expedite the immediate initial implementation of this project.

**Section 6. *RELOCATION OF STRUCTURES AND FACILITIES.*** - The MMDA shall be responsible for the relocation of all structures and/or facilities of such agencies that may be affected. These agencies include, though not necessarily limited to the DOTC, MRT, DENR, NEDA Region 4, the Manila Seeding Bank, the PNP, NCRPO, the OPS-National Printing Office, NIA, PNB, DPWH Regional Office, and SSS.

**Section 7. *COOPERATING AGENCIES.*** - The PNR, LRTA, and such other agencies of government as may be involved, are likewise directed to immediately coordinate with MMDA, to expedite the further development of the other component terminal areas herein specified.

**Section 8. *FUNDING FOR THE PROJECT.*** - The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) is hereby directed to allocate funds to finance the implementation of the initial phase of the project specifically for the north and south terminals in such amount as may be necessary, but not to exceed **ONE HUNDRED MILLION PESOS (PhP 100,000,000.00)**, specifically to cover cost of construction for the north and south terminals. This may be drawn against any of the available reserves for infrastructure development under the discretion of the Office of the President.

Henceforth, such additional amounts as may be required may be included in the allowable budget ceiling of MMDA.

**Section 9. *EFFECTIVITY.*** - This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Done in the City of Manila, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). [*Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 180**  
DEVOLVING TO THE AUTONOMOUS REGIONAL GOVERNMENT OF THE AUTONOMOUS  
REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO CERTAIN POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE EXECUTIVE  
ORDER NO. 481, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 481, Series of 1991, issued pursuant to Republic Act No. 6734, effected the devolution to the Autonomous Regional Government (ARG) of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) of certain powers and functions of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), including the control and supervision over its offices, programs and projects in the ARMM;

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 9054 was enacted into law on March 31, 2001 in order to strengthen and expand the Organic Act for the ARMM, and the same was ratified on August 14, 2001 with the addition of the province of Basilan (except Isabela City) and the City of Marawi to the original four provinces comprising the ARMM;

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the National Government of devolve, as far as practicable and consistent with the Constitution and RA 6734 as amended by RA 9054, as many functions and powers of national government agencies to the ARG;

**WHEREAS**, the devolution of powers and functions of the National Government to the ARG is part of the government's peace process to find ways and means for a durable and lasting peace in Mindanao; and

**WHEREAS**, the Oversight Committee created pursuant to RA 9054 deemed it imperative that there is a need to further devolve certain powers and functions of the DTI to the ARG.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Technical Assistance.*** The DTI shall continue to assist the ARG in facilitating the performance of the economic development mandate. The following bureaus of the DTI may be tapped to provide support and technical assistance to the ARG:

- a. Bureau of Export Trade Promotions (BETP);
- b. Bureau of International Trade Relations (BITR);
- c. Center for Industrial Competitiveness (CIC);
- d. Bureau of Import Service (BIS);
- e. Trade and Industry Information Center (TIIC);
- f. Bureau of Trade Regulations and Consumer Protection (BTRCP);
- g. Bureau of Small and Medium Enterprise Development (BSMED);
- h. Intellectual Property Office (IPO);
- i. Foreign Trade Service Corps (FTSC);
- j. Bureau of Domestic Trade (BDT);

- k. Bureau of Product Standards (BPS);
- l. Garments and Textile Export Board (GTEB);
- m. Philippine Trade Training Center (PTTC);
- n. Cottage Industry Technology Center (CITC); and
- o. Human Resource Development Service (HRDS)

**SEC. 2. Personnel.** The following rules shall govern the personnel of the DTI assigned in the Province of Basilan and the City of Marawi:

a. All plantilla positions, filled and unfilled effectively assigned to, or with the Province of Basilan, except Isabela City, and Marawi City as their official station, shall be placed immediately under the control and supervision of the ARG

b. Personnel absorbed by the ARG shall retain their seniority rights, compensations, and other benefits in accordance with Civil Service laws, rules and regulations.

c. Personnel declining to be absorbed by the ARG shall have the following options:

c.1 Retirement – All affected personnel qualified for retirement may elect retirement, as may be provided under existing laws. All benefits, including payment of accrued leave credits, that may be lawfully given to affected employees by virtue of their transfer, retirement or separation from service shall be paid within one (1) month from the filing of the necessary clearance and other pertinent documents.

c.2 Transfer – Affected personnel shall be given priority in hiring for existing vacant positions in other government agencies, subject to compliance with established qualification standards set by the receiving agencies.

c.3 Resignation – Separated personnel not eligible for retirement under existing laws shall be entitled to all benefits provided under existing Civil Service Laws.

**SEC. 3. Technical Assistance Defined.** Technical Assistance are those activities which “involve the introduction of methods, ideas and information aimed at improving the planning and implementation of a process, a project or a program as well as institution building, studies and training.”

Such assistance may take the form of consultancy service for detailed design, supervision of loan projects and strengthening of existing agencies, advisory and operational assistance for project preparation to help build pipeline of potential projects and induce investment financing by other financing and donors.

**SEC. 4. Assets, Equipment and Budget.** All assets, equipment, budgetary allocation and properties being utilized or programmed for use for the Province of Basilan, and the City of Marawi shall be turned-over to the ARG of the ARMM.

**SEC. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** The DTI-National, in coordination with the ARG, shall formulate the Implementing Rules and Regulations that will effectively carry out the provisions of this Executive Order within thirty (30) days from its effectivity.

**SEC. 6. Date of Transfer.** The DTI shall effect full transfer of its functions, personnel, assets, equipment and budget within ninety (90) days following the effectivity of this Executive Order.

**SEC. 7. Repealing Clause.** All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed, modified and amended accordingly.

SEC. 8. *Effectivity.* This Executive Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a national newspaper of general circulation and one local newspaper of general circulation in the ARMM.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 27<sup>TH</sup> day of February, in the year of our Lord, two thousand three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). [*Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 181**

DEVOLVING TO THE AUTONOMOUS REGIONAL GOVERNMENT OF THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO CERTAIN POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY IN THE PROVINCE OF BASILAN AND IN MARAWI CITY, INCLUDING THE CONTROL AND SUPERVISION OVER ITS PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 317, Series of 1996, issued pursuant to Republic Act No. 6734, effected the devolution to the Autonomous Regional Government (ARG) of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) of certain powers and functions of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) including control and supervision over its offices, programs and projects in ARMM;

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 9054 was enacted into law on March 31, 2001 in order to strengthen and expand the Organic Act for the ARMM, and the same was ratified on August 14, 2001 with the addition of the Province of Basilan (except Isabela City) and the City of Marawi to the original four (4) provinces comprising the ARMM;

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the National Government to devolve, as far as practicable and consistent with the Constitution and RA 6734, as amended by RA 9054, as many functions and powers of the national government agencies to the ARG;

**WHEREAS**, the devolution of powers and functions of the National Government to the ARG is part of the government's peace process to find ways and means for a durable lasting peace in Mindanao; and

**WHEREAS**, the Oversight Committee created pursuant to Section 3, Article XVIII of RA 9054, deemed it imperative to devolve to the ARG the control and supervision of TESDA offices, programs and projects in the Province of Basilan and City of Marawi.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Transfer of Powers, Functions, Personnel, Assets and Budget.*** The TESDA Basilan Provincial Office and the Provincial Training Center together with its personnel, assets and liabilities, and budget for the current year shall be devolved to the ARG.

The appropriate budgetary support for Technical Vocational Training Programs and Projects for Marawi City shall be carved out of the operations of TESDA Region XII and likewise be devolved to the ARG.

**SEC. 2. *Provincial Offices.*** In order to strengthen the implementing capability of TESDA-ARMM and to be at par with the administrative regions, Provincial Offices are hereby established in the provinces of Maguindanao, Lanao del Sur, Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi to conform with the provisions of the TESDA Act of 1996.

SEC. 3. Technical Assistance. TESDA shall make available to the ARG such technical assistance as may be necessary to carry out effectively the objectives of this Executive Order.

SEC. 4. Implementing Rules. TESDA, in close coordination with the ARG, shall issue the implementing rules and regulations to effect the devolution and turn-over within ninety (90) days from effectivity of this Executive Order.

SEC. 5. Separability Clause. If any provision of this Executive Order is declared unconstitutional or contrary to law, the validity and effectivity of the other provisions hereof shall not be affected.

SEC. 6. Effectivity. This Executive Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a national newspaper of general circulation and one local newspaper of general circulation in the ARMM.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 27<sup>TH</sup> day of February, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). [*Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 182**

**TRANSFERRING THE MEDICARE FUNDS AND THE MEDICARE FUNCTIONS OF THE  
OVERSEAS WORKERS WELFARE ADMINISTRATION TO THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH  
INSURANCE CORPORATION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 195  
DATED AUGUST 13, 1994**

**WHEREAS**, Article XIII, Section 11 of the Constitution provides that the State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Executive Order No. 195 dated August 13, 1994, Filipinos recruited for employment abroad are compulsorily covered by a Medical Care Program (“Medicare”), the funds of which are administered by the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA);

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to a Memorandum of Agreement entered into by and among the OWWA, the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration, the Department of Foreign Affairs, the Social Security System and the defunct Philippine Medical Care Commission, the OWWA performs Medicare functions such as the collection of contributions and the disbursement of funds for benefit payments;

**WHEREAS**, by virtue of the National Health Insurance Act of 1995 (Republic Act [R.A.] No. 7875), the National Health Insurance Program was established to provide health insurance coverage and ensure affordable, acceptable, available and accessible health care services for all citizens of the Philippines, and the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC) was created to, among others, administer the National Health Insurance Program;

**WHEREAS**, Section 6, Article III of R.A. No. 7875 and Section 6, Rule I, Title III of its Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations provide that all citizens of the Philippines, including Overseas Filipino Workers and their dependents, shall be covered by the National Health Insurance Program;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to transfer the Medicare funds and the Medicare functions of the OWWA to the PHIC.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. Coverage.** – Pursuant to Section 6, Article III of R.A. No. 7875 and Section 6, Rule I, Title III of its Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations, all Overseas Filipino Workers and their dependents shall be covered by the National Health Insurance Program.

**SECTION 2. Transfer of Medicare Funds of the OWWA.** – The Medicare Funds being administered by the OWWA shall be transferred to the PHIC within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Executive Order.

**SECTION 3. Transfer of Medicare Functions of the OWWA.** – The functions of the OWWA relative to its Medicare operations are hereby transferred to the PHIC.

**SECTION 4. Implementing Rules.** – The PHIC, in consultation with the OWWA, shall promulgate the Implementing Rules for this Executive Order which shall state the mechanics of the transfer of the Medicare Funds and Medicare functions, and include rules on the absorption by the PHIC of the personnel of the Medicare operations of the OWWA.

**SECTION 5. *Repeal.*** – Executive Order No. 195 dated August 13, 1994 is hereby modified accordingly. All orders, rules, regulations and issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 6. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon approval.

City of Manila, FEB 14 2003

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). [*Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 183**

REPEALING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 157, SERIES OF 2002, ENTITLED “ESTABLISHING THE UNLAD BARANGAYANIHAN PROGRAM (UGNAYAN NG LAHI AT DIWA, BAYANIHAN SA BARANGAY) TO CREATE A NETWORK OF BARANGAY-BASED ECONOMIC INITIATIVES AND TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION THAT WILL STRENGTHEN THE POVERTY ALLEVIATION EFFORTS OF THE GOVERNMENT”

I, **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** *Repeal of Executive Order No. 157, series of 2002.* Executive Order No. 157, series of 2002 is hereby repealed.

**SEC 2.** *Effectivity.* This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this **28th** of **February**, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 184**  
**DIRECTING THE REORGANIZATION AND STREAMLINING OF THE NATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT COMPANY**

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines needs to build its competitive strength to be able to cope with the forces of global change while propelling the country to sustained economic growth;

**WHEREAS**, the National Development Company (NDC), created by Commonwealth Act No. 182 to serve as an agency of the government in the furtherance of its economic policies, was directed under Presidential Decree No. 1648 as amended, to give the necessary impetus to national economic development;

**WHEREAS**, in line with the government's goal of global competitiveness, and its strategy of economic liberalization and increased private sector participation, there is a need to reorganize NDC in order to:

- (a) Redirect and refocus its thrusts and priorities to position the country's competitive advantage in the international environment by assisting in the efforts to market it as a premier investment site;
- (b) Realign the programs and priorities of the company in support of the present government's economic agenda and to synchronize its tasks with the Department of Trade and Industry's concerns and policies;
- (c) Invest in areas where investments gaps exist in synergy with government financial institutions, large cooperatives, rural banks and NGOs;
- (d) Attain optimum efficiency in the allocation of resources by streamlining its operations, minimizing organizational levels, reducing span of control with the end view of maximizing the utilization of resources but ensuring the minimum disruption of operations; and
- (e) Restructure its organization by ensuring that its manpower possesses the necessary skills and competencies needed for its proper role, scope and focus and to enable the organization to become more responsive, dynamic and cost efficient.

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of government to continuously improve and upgrade efficiencies in the delivery of public services, particularly those services that are directed to vital sectors of the economy and society, and to put in place highly qualified professionals competitively chosen in their fields of experience and expertise;

**WHEREAS**, the government is cognizant of the need to reorganize as and when it is imperative to do so to eliminate redundancies, improve efficiencies and achieve cost savings, within the confines of the law as provided for by R.A. 6656, an Act which provides personnel-related guidelines in the implementation of government reorganization;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Executive Order No. 124, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) to which the NDC is an attached agency, is authorized to make operational/structural adjustments in the Department to achieve effectiveness and efficiency in accomplishing its mandate;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the reorganization of the NDC, as follows:

**SECTION 1. *Refocusing of Operations.*** NDC in fulfillment of its role as the government's investment arm, shall:

- a. Adopt a new investment philosophy and strategy by actively sourcing funds and investing the same in a portfolio of socially relevant and commercially-driven projects, the returns from which shall balance out the generation of income streams and insure sustainable financial returns to uphold the government's shareholder value;
- b. Adopt a more aggressive divestment policy and clearer exit mechanism on its equity investments which could be best handled by the private sector;
- c. Act as a holding company to manage its subsidiaries where government investments are placed, ensure that their growth potentials are maximized to enhance government's shareholder value and adopt control mechanisms to effectively monitor the performance of its subsidiaries.

The company shall review its operations following a set of criteria for measuring its performance to attain its mission, plans and goals and in consonance with the above refocused functions.

**SEC. 2. *Staffing.*** The NDC shall establish the most appropriate staffing pattern and qualification standards for all positions under the new structure, provided that the cost of fully implementing the said staffing pattern shall not exceed the actual cost of personal services in the immediately preceding year. The revised organization structure and staffing pattern (OSSP) shall be subject to the approval of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

The DBM shall review and issue the final OSSP within thirty (30) days from the signing of this Order.

**SEC. 3. *Personnel Selection Committee.*** An independent Personnel Selection Committee shall be created by the DTI Secretary to recommend: a) what positions in the newly DBM-approved structure will be opened for filling-up consistent with the objectives of cost efficiency and effective service; b) the qualification standards for positions in the new structure which should at least meet the requirements of the Civil Service Commission (CSC); and c) selection of personnel to fill-up opened positions who should be competitively chosen with the end of setting up a highly professional and development-oriented organization. The Committee shall serve its purpose until such time that the new organization can set up appropriate internal rules and regulations on personnel recruitment, selection and hiring.

**SEC. 4. *Separation Package.*** NDC personnel shall be entitled to separation pay which shall be two (2) months of the latest compensation for every year of service in the government, which shall be in addition to all gratuities and benefits to which they may be entitled under existing laws; *provided*, however that those who avail of such privileges and opt to start their government service anew by virtue of being absorbed by the reorganized NDC or any other government entity shall refund the government the full amount of the separation benefit so received.

**SEC. 5. *Compensation.*** In line with Section 11 of PD 1648, NDC's Revised Charter, the salaries, allowances and fringe benefits of NDC officials and employees shall be in accordance with RA 6758 and other existing laws, rules and regulations on compensation.

**SEC. 6. *Personnel-Related Movements.*** All personnel-related movements resulting from the reorganization shall be implemented within CSC rules and regulations.

**SEC. 7. *Implementing Guidelines.*** The DTI Secretary is hereby authorized to promulgate implementing rules and regulations, as necessary to ensure the orderly reorganization of NDC.

**SEC. 8.** All Executive orders, issuance, orders, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with the Executive Order are hereby revoked, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 9.** If any provision of this Executive Order shall be held unconstitutional, the remainder of the Order not otherwise affected shall remain in effect.

**SEC. 10. *Effectivity.*** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 10<sup>TH</sup> day of March, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). [*Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 185**

**AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARY OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT TO EXERCISE  
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISION OVER THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS COMMISSION**

**WHEREAS**, Section 17, Article VII of the Constitution provides that the President shall have control of all executive departments, bureaus and offices and shall ensure that the laws be faithfully executed;

**WHEREAS**, the National Labor Relations Commission [NLRC] which was created by virtue of Presidential Decree No. 442, otherwise known as the “*Labor Code of the Philippines*,” is an agency under the Executive Department and was originally envisaged as being an integral part of the Department (then Ministry) of Labor and Employment [DOLE] under the administrative supervision of the Secretary of Labor and Employment [“Secretary of Labor”];

**WHEREAS**, upon the issuance of Executive Order No. 292, otherwise known as the “*Revised Administrative Code of 1987*” (the “Administrative Code”), the NLRC, by virtue of Section 25, Chapter 6, Title VII, Book IV thereof, became an agency attached to the DOLE for policy and program coordination and administrative supervision;

**WHEREAS**, Article 213 of the Labor Code and Section 25, Chapter 6, Title VII, Book IV of the Administrative Code were amended by Republic Act No. 6715 approved on March 2, 1989, which provides that the NLRC shall be attached to the DOLE for program and policy coordination only and transferred administrative supervision over the NLRC, all its regional branches and personnel to the NLRC Chairman;

**WHEREAS**, Section 16, Article III of the Constitution guarantees the right of all persons to a speedy disposition of their cases before all judicial, quasi-judicial and administrative bodies;

**WHEREAS**, the Secretary of Labor, after evaluating the NLRC’s performance record in the last five (5) years, including the rate of disposition of pending cases before it, has informed the President that there is a need to expedite the disposition of labor cases pending before the NLRC and all its regional and sub-regional branches or provincial extension units and initiate potent measures to prevent graft and corruption therein so as to reform its systems and personnel, as well as infuse the organization with a sense of public service in consonance with the imperative of change for the greater interest of the people;

**WHEREAS**, after consultations with the relevant sectors, the Secretary of Labor has recommended that the President, pursuant to her powers under the Constitution and existing laws, authorize the Secretary of Labor to exercise administrative supervision over the NLRC and all its regional and sub-regional branches or provincial extension units with the objective of improving the rate of disposition of pending cases and institute adequate measures for the prevention of graft and corruption within the said agency;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing laws, do hereby order:

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**SECTION 1. *Authority to Exercise Administrative Supervision.*** – The Secretary of Labor is hereby authorized to exercise administrative supervision over the NLRC, its regional branches and all its personnel, including the Executive Labor Arbiters and Labor Arbiters, with the objective of improving the rate of disposition of cases pending before it and its regional and sub-regional branches or provincial extension units and to institute adequate measures for the prevention of graft and corruption within the said agency.

For this purpose, the Secretary of Labor shall, among others:

- a. Generally oversee the operations of the NLRC and its regional and sub-regional branches or provincial extension units for the purpose of insuring that cases pending before them are decided or resolved expeditiously;
- b. Require the submission of reports as the Secretary of Labor may deem necessary;
- c. Initiate measures within the agency to prevent graft and corruption, including but not limited to, the conduct of management audits, performance evaluations and inspections to determine compliance with established policies, standards and guidelines;
- d. To take such action as may be necessary for the proper performance of official functions, including rectification of violations, abuses and other forms of maladministration; and
- e. Investigate, on its own or upon complaint, matters involving disciplinary action against any of the NLRC's personnel, including Presidential appointees, in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations. After completing his/her investigation, the Secretary of Labor shall submit a report to the President on the investigation conducted with a recommendation as to the penalty to be imposed or other action to be taken, including referral to the Presidential Anti-Graft Commission [PAGC], the Office of the Ombudsman or any other office, committee, commission, agency, department, instrumentality or branch of the government for appropriate action.

The authority conferred herein upon the Secretary of Labor shall not extend to the power to review, reverse, revise, or modify the decisions of the NLRC in the exercise of its quasi-judicial functions [*cf.* Section 38(2)(b), Chapter 7, Book IV, Administrative Code].

**SECTION 2. *Report to the Secretary of Labor.*** – The NLRC, through its Chairman, shall submit a report to the Secretary of Labor within thirty (30) days from issuance of this Executive Order, on the following matters:

- a. Performance Report/Audit for the last five (5) years, including list of pending cases and cases disposed of within the said period by the NLRC *en banc*, by Division and by the Labor Arbiters in each of its regional and sub-regional branches or provincial extension units;
- b. Detailed Master Plan on how to liquidate its backlog of cases with clear timetables to clean up its dockets within six (6) months from the issuance hereof;
- c. Complete inventory of its assets and list of personnel indicating their present positions and stations; and
- d. Such other matters as may be required by the Secretary of Labor.

**SECTION 3. *Rules and Regulations.*** – The Secretary of Labor, in consultation with the Chairman of the NLRC, is hereby authorized to issue rules and regulations for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Executive Order.

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SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause.* – All executive issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 5. *Effectivity.* – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation in the country.

City of Manila, MAR 10 2003

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 186**  
**RE-ESTABLISHING THE CLARK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT CORPORATION AS A**  
**SUBSIDIARY OF THE BASES CONVERSION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

**WHEREAS**, under Republic Act No. 7227, otherwise known as the “Bases Conversion Development Act of 1992”, it is the policy of the government to accelerate the sound and balanced conversion into alternative productive uses of the Clark and Subic military reservations and their extensions to promote the economic and social development of the country;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Executive Order No. 80, series of 1993, the Clark Development Corporation (CDC) was created as the implementing arm of the Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA) for the Clark Special Economic Zone which envisioned Clark to be converted into an international civil aviation complex, a modern international estate and tourism, trade and business center for Luzon and Asia;

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 192, series of 1994, established the Clark International Airport Corporation (CIAC) to operate and manage the Clark Civil Aviation Complex;

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 7, series of 2001 authorized the merger of the CIAC and CDC in order that there will be effective and efficient coordination in pursuing their policies and operations;

**WHEREAS**, the merger of CIAC and CDC, with the latter as the surviving corporation, has diminished the focus and priority of the development of the Clark International Airport; and

**WHEREAS**, coordination in policies and operations can still be achieved even if CIAC and CDC are separate and distinct agencies.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the following:

**SECTION 1.** The Clark International Airport Corporation (CIAC) is hereby re-established as a subsidiary of the BCDA to operate and manage the Clark Civil Aviation Complex.

**SEC. 2.** The Chairman of the BCDA is hereby directed to prepare a plan and take all the necessary steps towards effecting the re-establishment of CIAC as a separate entity from CDC as envisioned under Executive Order No. 192, series of 1994.

The Chairman of the BCDA shall submit, for approval by the Office of the President, among others, the proposed articles of incorporation, the by-laws of CIAC, the composition of its Board of Directors and its capitalization.

**SEC. 3.** The BCDA Chairman shall submit a report to the President on the action taken as soon as the re-establishment of CIAC shall have been completed.

**SEC. 4.** All orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 5.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 10<sup>TH</sup> day of March, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 187**  
**INSTITUTING A COMPREHENSIVE AND UNIFIED POLICY FOR THE TUBERCULOSIS**  
**CONTROL IN THE PHILIPPINES**

**WHEREAS**, Tuberculosis (TB) remains a major public health problem, ranking sixth in 1998 in the 10 leading causes of death and illness in the Philippines;

**WHEREAS**, the National TB Program (NTP) of the Department of Health (DOH) has made significant advances in improving the quality and extent of its control efforts;

**WHEREAS**, the DOH has forged a partnership with the Philippine Coalition Against Tuberculosis (PhilCAT) to develop a “**Comprehensive and Unified Policy for TB Control in the Philippines**” in collaboration with other government agencies and private sectors to harmonize and unify the TB control efforts in the Philippines;

**WHEREAS**, the “**Comprehensive and Unified Policy for TB Control in the Philippines**” adopting the DOTS strategy (5 components) of the National TB Program (NTP) shall be the basis of implementation of TB control among the concerned stakeholders.

- Direct sputum smear examination shall be the initial diagnostic tool in case finding
- Standardized chemotherapy in accordance with the National TB Program,
- Recording and Reporting of cases shall be on the standardized National TB program (NTP) to be implemented in all health centers
- Direct Observed Treatment (DOT) shall be used as the strategy to ensure patient compliance
- Political commitment to ensure sustained, comprehensive implementation of National TB program activities.

**WHEREAS**, this policy was ratified by the heads of the organizations listed below during the First Philippine Tuberculosis Summit Conference, held on the 7<sup>th</sup> of March 2003, at the EDSA Shangri-La Hotel, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila, Philippines;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby instruct these government agencies:

1. Department of Health
2. Department of Education
3. Department of Interior and Local Government
4. Department of National Defense
5. Department of Justice – Bureau of Corrections
6. Department of Social Welfare and Development
7. Department of Agriculture
8. Department of Agrarian Reform
9. Department of Science and Technology

10. Philippine Health Insurance Corporation
11. Department of Labor and Employment
12. Overseas Workers and Welfare Administration
13. National Economic and Development Authority
14. National Commission on Indigenous Peoples
15. Government Service Insurance System
16. Social Security System
17. Employees Compensation Commission

and enjoin the following private sector organizations,

18. Philippine Coalition Against Tuberculosis (with 52 members)
19. Philippine Medical Association
20. Trade Union Congress of the Philippines
21. Employers Confederation of the Philippines
22. Association of Health Maintenance Organizations of the Philippines

to work in partnership, to conduct the dissemination of, and the training on, the said “**Comprehensive and Unified Policy for TB Control in the Philippines**” from the date of this Order.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, in the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

**Executive Secretary**

*Source: Malacañang Records Office*

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 188**

TRANSFERRING THE COMMISSION ON POPULATION FROM THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND THEN PLACING IT UNDER THE CONTROL AND SUPERVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Letter of Implementation No. 37 dated December 11, 1975, the Commission on Population was transferred from the Office of the President and attached to the Department of Health;

**WHEREAS**, under Executive Order No. 123 dated January 30, 1987, the Commission was attached to the Department of Social Welfare and Development;

**WHEREAS**, by virtue of Executive Order No. 408 dated June 18, 1990, it was again transferred to the Office of the President;

**WHEREAS**, under Executive Order No. 476 dated August 14, 1991, the Commission was placed under the National Economic and Development Authority;

**WHEREAS**, in order to facilitate coordination of policies and programs relative to population, it is deemed necessary to place the Commission under the control and supervision of the Department of Health;

**WHEREAS**, Book III, Title III, Chapter 10, Section 31 (3) of the Administrative Code of 1987, authorizes the President to “[T]ransfer any agency under the Office of the President to any other department or agency as well as transfer agencies to the Office of the President from other departments or agencies;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the following:

**SECTION 1.** The Commission on Population is hereby transferred to the Office of the President and then attached to the Department of Health.

**SEC. 2.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.



DONE in the City of Manila, this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 189**  
**TRANSFERRING THE NATIONAL BOOK DEVELOPMENT BOARD FROM THE OFFICE OF**  
**THE PRESIDENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Republic Act No. 8047, otherwise known as the “Book Publishing Industry Development Act”, the National Book Development Board (NBDB) was created to formulate, adopt and implement a National Book Policy which will serve as the basis for fostering the viability and progressive growth of the book publishing industry;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 7 of the same Act, the NBDB was placed under the administrative supervision of the Office of the President;

**WHEREAS**, this administration recognizes the vital importance of textbooks and other educational materials to the school population, particularly those in the primary and secondary levels;

**WHEREAS**, the said levels are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Education (DepEd), and is therefore necessary that the NBDB be transferred to the DepEd;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, the President has the continuing authority to reorganize the Office of the President, including transferring any agency from the Office of the President to any other department.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. Transfer of the National Book Development Board.** – The National Book Development Board is hereby transferred from the Office of the President to the Department of Education.

**SECTION 2. Repealing Clause.** – All executive orders, rules and regulations and other issuances inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby revoked or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 3. Effectivity.** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Done in the City of Manila, this 31<sup>st</sup> day of March, in the year of Our Lord two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

**Executive Secretary**

*Source: Malacañang Records Office*

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 190**  
**ABOLISHING THE GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
**AND TRANSFERRING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF**  
**ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**WHEREAS**, by virtue of Executive Order No. 342 dated June 6, 1996, the Golf Course Construction and Development Committee was created to, among others, adopt and promulgate standards for the construction, development, and operation of golf courses and assist in the evaluation of all applications for the issuance of environmental compliance certificates for the construction, development, and operation of golf courses;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, the President has continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of Office of the President.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Abolition.*** – The Golf Course Construction and Development Committee (GCCDC) is hereby abolished.

**SECTION 2. *Transfer of Powers and Functions.*** – The powers and functions of the GCCDC are hereby transferred to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

**SECTION 3. *Implementation.*** – The DENR shall take the necessary steps to implement this Executive Order.

**SECTION 4. *Repeal.*** – All orders, rules, regulations and issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 5. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon approval.

City of Manila, MAR 31 2003

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: Malacañang Records Office

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 191**

MODIFYING THE RATES OF DUTY ON CERTAIN IMPORTED ARTICLES AS PROVIDED UNDER THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978, AS AMENDED, IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THE PREFERENTIAL TARIFF RATES ON CERTAIN PRODUCTS UNDER THE ASEAN INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION (AICO) SCHEME, IN FAVOR OF TOYOTA MOTOR PHILIPPINES CORPORATION AND TOYOTA AUTOPARTS PHILIPPINES, INC. (TOYOTA)-(COE NO. TOYOTA /2002/28)

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines is a Contracting Party to the Basic Agreement on the ASEAN Industrial Cooperation Scheme (AICO) signed in Singapore on 27 April 1996;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines is a participating country in the approved AICO Arrangement of Toyota Motor Philippines Corporation and Toyota Autoparts Philippines, Inc., along with Thailand;

**WHEREAS**, under the Toyota AICO arrangement, the Philippines (Toyota Motor Philippines Corporation and Toyota Autoparts Philippines, Inc.) will import from Thailand (Toyota Motor Thailand Co. Ltd.) certain original equipment manufacture (OEM) automotive parts/components for Toyota Corolla and Camry passenger cars (HS 8703.90.10). In exchange, Thailand will import from the Philippines complementary parts/components for the OEM of Soluna;

**WHEREAS**, AICO Certificate of Eligibility (COE) No. Toyota/2002/28 was issued on 19 December 2002, in favor of the participating companies in the Toyota AICO Arrangement;

**WHEREAS**, in consonance with Article 5 and 7 of the Basic Agreement of the AICO Scheme, participating companies in the approved Toyota AICO Arrangement shall qualify for 0 – 5% preferential tariff rates to be extended by Thailand and the Philippines as participating countries;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, pursuant to the powers vested in me under Section 402 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The articles specifically listed in **Annex “A”** hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be accorded the AICO rate of 3% on parts/components of Toyota Corolla and Camry, (HS 8703.90 10) as specified in Column 6 thereof.

**SEC. 2.** The AICO rate provided in **Annex “A”** shall be accorded to the AICO entity in Thailand (Toyota Motor Thailand Co. Ltd.) upon the effectivity of this Executive Order.

**SEC. 3.** In the event that any subsequent changes are made in the basic (Most Favored Nation) Philippine rate of duty on any of the articles listed in **Annex “A”** to a rate lower than the AICO rate prescribed in Column 6 of **Annex “A”**, such articles shall automatically be accorded the corresponding reduced rate of duty.

**SEC. 4.** Upon the effectivity of this Executive Order, the articles specifically listed in the aforesaid **Annex “A”** which are entered or withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines for consumption shall pay the applicable AICO preferential tariff rates specified under Section 1 and 3 hereof, subject

to qualification under the Rules of Origin for the CEPT, as evidenced by the Certificate of Origin – Form “D”.

**SEC. 5.** Any revision/s to the part numbers appearing in Column 4 of **Annex “A”** shall be communicated immediately to the Bureau of Customs by the Board of Investments within five (5) days after receipt of the official copy of the revised part number/s from the ASEAN Secretariat.

**SEC. 6.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 31<sup>ST</sup> day of March, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Reference:* Annex “A”

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 192**

MODIFYING THE RATES OF DUTY ON CERTAIN IMPORTED ARTICLES AS PROVIDED UNDER THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978, AS AMENDED, IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THE PREFERENTIAL TARIFF RATES ON CERTAIN PRODUCTS UNDER THE ASEAN INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION (AICO) SCHEME, IN FAVOR OF HONDA CARS PHILIPPINES, INC. (HONDA)-(COE NO. HONDA /2002/26)

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines is a Contracting Party to the Basic Agreement on the ASEAN Industrial Cooperation Scheme (AICO) signed in Singapore on 27 April 1996;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines is a participating country in the approved AICO Arrangement of Honda Cars Philippines, along with Malaysia;

**WHEREAS**, under the Honda AICO arrangement, the Philippines (Honda Car Philippines, Inc.) will import from Malaysia (Honda Malaysia Sdn Bhd.) certain original equipment manufacture (OEM) automotive parts/components for Honda CR-V light commercial vehicles (HS 8702.90.10). In exchange, Malaysia will import from the Philippines complementary parts/components for the OEM of Honda City and Civic;

**WHEREAS**, AICO Certificate of Eligibility (COE) No. Honda/2002/26 was issued on 19 December 2002, in favor of the participating companies in the Honda AICO Arrangement;

**WHEREAS**, in consonance with Article 5 and 7 of the Basic Agreement of the AICO Scheme, participating companies in the approved Honda AICO Arrangement shall qualify for 0-5% preferential tariff rates to be extended by Malaysia and the Philippines as participating countries;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, pursuant to the powers vested in me under Section 402 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The articles specifically listed in **Annex “A”** hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be accorded the AICO rate of 3% on parts/components of HONDA CR-V, light commercial vehicle (HS 8702.90 10) as specified in Column 6 thereof.

**SEC. 2.** The AICO rate provided in **Annex “A”** shall be accorded to the AICO entity in Malaysia (Honda Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.) upon the effectivity of this Executive Order.

**SEC. 3.** In the event that any subsequent changes are made in the basic (Most Favored Nation) Philippine rate of duty on any of the articles listed in **Annex “A”** to a rate lower than the AICO rate prescribed in Column 6 of **Annex “A”**, such articles shall automatically be accorded the corresponding reduced rate of duty.

**SEC. 4.** Upon the effectivity of this Executive Order, the articles specifically listed in the aforesaid **Annex “A”** which are entered or withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines for consumption shall pay the applicable AICO preferential tariff rates specified under Section 1 and 3

hereof, subject to qualification under the Rules of Origin for the CEPT, as evidenced by the Certificate of Origin – Form “D”.

**SEC. 5.** Any revision/s to the part numbers appearing in Column 4 of **Annex “A”** shall be communicated immediately to the Bureau of Customs by the Board of Investments within five (5) days after receipt of the official copy of the revised part number/s from the ASEAN Secretariat.

**SEC. 6.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 31<sup>ST</sup> day of March, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Reference:* Annex “A”

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 193**  
**ESTABLISHING THE CLARK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT CORPORATION AS A SUBSIDIARY**  
**OF THE CLARK DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AND REPEALING EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
**NO. 186 FOR THIS PURPOSE.**

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 186 re-established the Clark International Airport Corporation (CIAC) as a subsidiary of the Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA) to manage and operate the Diosdado Macapagal International Airport (DMIA);

**WHEREAS**, Clark Development Corporation (CDC) has a vision to develop the Clark Special Economic Zone (CSEZ) as an “aerotropolis” or a globally competitive urban center with the DMIA as centerpiece;

**WHEREAS**, in order to foster synergy in the development of the DMIA as well as the CSEZ, there is a need for closer coordination between the CDC as implementing arm of the CSEZ and the CIAC as the operator of the DMIA.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the following:

**SECTION 1.** The Clark International Airport Corporation (CIAC) is hereby established as a subsidiary of the Clark Development Corporation (CDC) to operate and manage the Clark Civil Aviation Complex.

**SECTION 2.** The Chairman of the CDC is hereby directed to prepare a plan to take all necessary steps towards effecting the establishment of CIAC as a subsidiary of the CDC.

The Chairman of the CDC shall submit, for approval of the Office of the President, among others, the proposed articles of incorporation, the by-laws of CIAC, and its capitalization.

**SECTION 3.** The BCDA Chairman shall submit a report to the President on the action taken as soon as the establishment of CIAC as a subsidiary of the CDC shall have been completed.

**SECTION 4.** Executive Order No. 186 dated March 10, 2003 is hereby repealed.

All orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 5.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.



DONE in the City of Manila, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of April, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑAN PALACE  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 194**  
**CREATING A PUBLIC-PRIVATE SECTOR TASK FORCE TO COORDINATE PHILIPPINE**  
**PARTICIPATION IN THE POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION OF IRAQ**

WHEREAS, the Philippines, as a member of the United Nations, desires to contribute to the immediate humanitarian needs of the Iraqi people and has for this purpose created a Task Force to coordinate such assistance;

WHEREAS, the Philippines also desires to contribute to the multinational effort for the long-term reconstruction and development of Iraq;

WHEREAS, there is a need to coordinate Philippine public and private sector participation in such reconstruction and development efforts in order to rationalize and make more effective such participation;

NOW THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the creation of a Public-Private Sector Task Force for the Reconstruction and Development of Iraq.

SECTION 1. Composition – The Task Force shall be composed of the following government officials and representatives from the private sector as follows:

|                                                                                                                                             |          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Senior Adviser on International Competitiveness                                                                                             | Chairman |
| Secretary of Foreign Affairs                                                                                                                | Member   |
| Secretary of Labor and Employment                                                                                                           | Member   |
| Secretary of Trade and Industry                                                                                                             | Member   |
| Secretary of Energy                                                                                                                         | Member   |
| Special Envoy, Middle East Preparedness Team                                                                                                | Member   |
| Philippine Ambassadors to Iraq, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia                                                                                    | Members  |
| President, Philippine Constructors Association and other private sector representatives to be appointed by the President of the Philippines | Members  |

SECTION 2. Role – The Task Force shall coordinate public and private participation in the multinational effort for the reconstruction and development of post-war Iraq. In particular, it shall develop and implement an action plan to maximize and enhance this participation, including:

- (a) providing representation on behalf of the Philippine Government and the private sector with the Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance (ORHA), national and multilateral agencies and with international firms involved in the reconstruction and rehabilitation of post-war Iraq;
- (b) assisting the participation of Philippine companies in the rehabilitation and development of the Iraqi infrastructure—public works, highways, transportation, information and communications, energy, agriculture—and public services such as education, sanitation, civil administration and other service industries;

- (c) evaluating Philippine companies and other entities for the purpose of ensuring that the performance of services to be provided are of the highest quality;
- (d) developing procedures to expedite deployment of Philippine manpower and other services in the fulfillment of contracts;
- (e) and such other actions relevant to Philippine private sector participation in the reconstruction and development of Iraq.

SECTION 3. Executive Committee – An Executive Committee composed of Undersecretaries of Foreign Affairs and Labor, the Administrator of the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration, the Executive Director of the Philippine Overseas Construction Board, the Executive Director of Office of Muslim Affairs, and the private sector representatives is hereby created. The Task Force may authorize the Executive Committee to act on urgent matters on its behalf.

SECTION 4. Secretariat and Offices – The Task Force shall set up a Secretariat which shall provide technical and administrative support to the Task Force. The Secretariat shall be based in Manila and shall be supervised by an Executive Director to be appointed by the President. The Task Force shall likewise establish an office in Kuwait under the oversight of the Philippine Ambassador. It may appoint additional officers and staff and may establish other offices abroad as may be necessary to fulfill its mandate.

SECTION 5. Funding – To carry out the provisions of this order, the release of Ten Million Pesos (P10,000,000.00) from the Contingent Fund is hereby authorized as seed fund. The Task Force may also source additional funds from the private sector to support the implementation of its plans and programs as may be necessary.

SECTION 6. Separability Clause – If for any reason any part of provision of the Order shall be held unconstitutional and invalid, other parts of provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 7. Repealing Clause – All executive orders, proclamations, memorandum orders or memorandum circulars inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 8. Effectivity – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon its signing.

Done in the City of Manila, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, in the year Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: Malacañang Records Office

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑAN PALACE  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 195**  
**PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION OF AN INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE FOR THE**  
**COORDINATION OF PHILIPPINE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO IRAQ**

WHEREAS, the Philippines, as a member of the United Nations, has actively contributed to and participated in the various initiatives of the UN Security Council aimed at providing assistance to Iraq as stipulated in UNSC Resolutions 661 (1990), 985 (1995), 1284 (1999), 1472 (2003) and other relevant resolutions;

WHEREAS, the Philippines has contributed significantly to the United Nations initiatives for Iraq as evidenced by the deployment of elements of the Armed Forces for Iraq (UNGCI) for service as a humanitarian assistance protection force, as well as participation in the “Oil for Food” Program for Iraq;

WHEREAS, there is a need to coordinate the Philippine Government’s efforts aimed at contributing to the immediate humanitarian needs to the Iraqi people;

NOW THEREFORE I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the creation of an Inter-Agency Task Force for the Coordination of Philippine Humanitarian Assistance to Iraq.

SECTION 1. Composition – The Task Force shall be comprised of the following officials (or their duly-designated representatives):

|                                                   |                    |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Secretary of Foreign Affairs                      | Chairman           |
| Secretary of National Defense                     | Co-Chairman        |
| Special Envoy, Middle East Preparedness Team      | Executive Director |
| Secretary of Health                               | Member             |
| Secretary of Interior and Local Government        | Member             |
| Secretary of Social Welfare and Development       | Member             |
| Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippine    | Member             |
| Director-General, Philippine National Police      | Member             |
| Executive Director, Office of Muslim Affairs      | Member             |
| The Philippine Ambassadors to Iraq and Kuwait     | Members            |
| Other Officials to be designated by the President | Members            |

SECTION 2. Role – It is recognized that international assistance to Iraq will be done in an environment which will undergo three general stages: one, the present action led by the Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance (ORHA); two, the establishment of the interim authority in Iraq; and three, establishment and/or re-establishment of United Nations assistance and related programs in Iraq.

The Task Force shall immediately formulate a consolidated plan of proposed Philippine Assistance for the immediate needs of the Iraqi nation, taking into account the evolving assistance environment. Such assistance shall include:

- 
- a. Philippine participation in UN, ORHA and other humanitarian, medical and related activities for Iraq.
  - b. Other relevant Philippine participation for assistance to Iraq.

The Task Force shall also perform the following functions:

- a. Conclusion of arrangements with receiving/host governments whereby the Philippine personnel contingent in Iraq are not put at personal risk from application of local law when deployed abroad upon orders;
- b. Conduct of public information, education and communication campaign on the hazards and risk, if any, involved in the sending of peacekeeping/humanitarian missions.

The Task Force shall establish a Technical Working Group to discuss in detail guidelines, programmes and projects to accomplish the abovementioned areas of Philippine participation in humanitarian assistance to post-war Iraq.

SECTION 3. Separability Clause – If, for any reason, any part of this Order shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts of provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 4. Repealing Clause – All executive orders, proclamations, memorandum orders or memorandum circulars inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 5. Effectivity – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon its signing.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 196**  
**MODIFYING THE RATES OF IMPORT DUTY ON CERTAIN IMPORTED**  
**ARTICLES UNDER SECTION 104 OF THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978**  
**(PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1464, AS AMENDED)**

**WHEREAS**, the government needs to provide the agriculture and fisheries sector tariff assistance to be efficient and globally competitive;

**WHEREAS**, Section 401 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978 (Presidential Decree No. 1464), as amended, empowers the President of the Republic of the Philippines, upon the recommendation of the National Economic and Development Authority, to increase, reduce, or remove existing protective rates of import duty, as well as to modify the form of duty;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The articles specifically listed in Annex “A” hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be subject to the rates of import duty in accordance with the schedule indicated opposite each article.

**SECTION 2.** The nomenclature and rates of import duty on tariff headings not enumerated and those listed but represented by the symbol “x x x” shall remain in force and effect.

**SECTION 3.** Upon the effectivity of this Executive Order, the above-mentioned articles, which are entered and withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines shall be levied the rates of duty herein prescribed.

**SECTION 4.** All Presidential issuances, administrative rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 5.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately following its complete publication in two newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 16TH day of April, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Reference:* “Annex A”

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 197**  
**MODIFYING THE NOMENCLATURE AND THE RATES OF IMPORT DUTY ON VARIOUS**  
**PRODUCTS UNDER SECTION 104 OF THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978**  
**(PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1464, AS AMENDED)**

**WHEREAS**, the vegetable industry needs tariff support as it prepares to gear up for competition vis-à-vis imports;

**WHEREAS**, Section 401 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, empowers the President to increase, reduce or remove existing rates of duty, as well as to modify the tariff nomenclature.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The articles specifically listed in “Annex A” hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be subject to the rates of import duty in accordance with the schedule indicated opposite each article.

**SEC. 2.** The nomenclature and the rates of import duty on tariff headings not enumerated and those listed but represented by the symbol “X X X” shall remain in force and effect.

**SEC. 3.** Upon the effectivity of this Executive Order, the articles specifically listed in the aforesaid “Annex” which are entered or withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines for consumption shall be levied the rates of duty herein prescribed.

**SEC. 4.** All other Presidential issuances, administrative rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 5.** This Executive Order shall be effective for a period of six months (6) months which shall commence immediately following its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.



Done in the City of Manila, this 16TH day of April, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Reference:* Annex “A”

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 198**  
**CREATING THE MILITARY SERVICE BOARD, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR**  
**AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**WHEREAS**, R.A. 8440, “An act providing for the Confirmation of WWII Military Services” by a Military Service Board (MSB), which qualifies applicant for veteran status, ceased to exist on January 26, 2001 after three (3) years of existence;

**WHEREAS**, the MSB claimants have continually followed-up the status of their claims and incessantly filed complaints to legislators and other high-ranking government officials for the MSB inaction/slow processing on their applications;

**WHEREAS**, it will be in keeping with justice and equity for the rightful claimants, for government to continue with the processing of the claims for confirmation of their WWII Military Services;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Chapter 7, Title I, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987 as well as P.D. 1416 as amended by P.D. 1772, the President has the continuing authority to reorganize the government.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. Creation of the Board** – A new Military Service Board is hereby created to be supervised by Philippine Veterans’ Affairs Office (PVAO) and under the general supervision of the Secretary, Department of National Defense, to process the existing claim-applications on file and pending for Confirmation of military services in the Philippines during the period beginning December 8, 1941 and ending July 3, 1946 and to determine the validity and qualifying the applicants for the military veteran status.

**SEC. 2. Composition of the Board** – The Board shall be composed of a Chairman and four (4) members to be nominated by the Administrator, PVAO to the Secretary of National Defense, who shall appoint them as chairman and members of the board.

**SEC. 3. Period of Existence of the Board** – The Board shall cease to exist one (1) year after the date of the effectivity of this order.

**SEC. 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations** – The Administrator, PVAO shall issue rules and regulations subject to the approval of the Secretary of National Defense to ensure the effective implementation of this Order within thirty (30) days after approval of this order.

**SEC. 5. Funding** – Funding for the operations of the Board shall be provided by PVAO and the DND from their existing budget. If necessary, this shall be augmented by the President’s Contingency Fund.

**SEC. 6. Repealing Clause** – All orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 7. Effectivity** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 21<sup>ST</sup> day of April, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 199**  
**TRANSFERRING THE PUBLIC ESTATE AUTHORITY FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**  
**TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS**

**WHEREAS**, the Public Estate Authority (PEA) was created pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 1084 to provide for a coordinated, economical and efficient reclamation of lands and the administration and operation of land belonging to, managed or operated by the government, with the object of maximizing their utilization and hastening their development consistent with the public interest;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Executive Order No. 525, the PEA was designated as the agency primary responsible for integrating, directing and coordinating all reclamation projects for and in behalf of the National Government;

**WHEREAS**, Section 31, Chapter 10, title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, grants to the President continuing authority to reorganize the government;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The Public Estate Authority is hereby transferred from the Office of the President to the Department of Public Works and Highways.

**SEC. 2.** All orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 3.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE**, in the City of Manila, this 21<sup>ST</sup> day of April, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 200**  
**ADJUSTING THE DIVIDEND RATE OF THE DEVELOPMENT BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES**  
**(DBP) ON ITS 2001 and 2002 NET EARNINGS PURSUANT TO SECTION 5 OF**  
**REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7656**

**WHEREAS**, under Section 1 of Republic Act No. 7656, it is the declared policy of the state that in order for the National Government to realize additional revenues, government owned and/or controlled corporations, without impairing their viability and the purposes for which they have been established, shall share a substantial amount of their net earnings to the National Government;

**WHEREAS**, Section 5 of Republic Act No. 7656 provides that “in the interest of national economy and general welfare, the percentage of annual net earnings that shall be declared by a government owned and/or controlled corporation may be adjusted by the President of the Philippines upon recommendation by the Secretary of Finance”;

**WHEREAS**, to support the viability and mandate of the Development Bank of the Philippines, their liquidity, capital position, retained earnings and medium term plans and programs were considered in the determination of the reasonable dividend rate on its 2001 and 2002 net earnings; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 5 of R.A. 7656, the Secretary of Finance recommended the adjustment on the percentage of dividend rate for 2001 and 2002 net earnings that shall be declared by DBP to the National Government, in the interest of national economy and general welfare.

**NOW, THEREFORE I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The percentage of dividends for year 2001 to be remitted by DBP to the National Government is adjusted to at least seven hundred fifty five million pesos (P755 M) or equivalent to 25% net earnings.

**SEC. 2.** The percentage of dividends for year 2002 to be remitted by DBP to the National Government is adjusted to at least one billion pesos (P1 B) or equivalent to 23% of its 2002 net earnings.

**SEC. 3.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 21<sup>ST</sup> day of April, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 201**

**DEFINING THE POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF GOVERNMENT  
AGENCIES IN RESPONSE TO THE SEVERE ACUTE RESPIRATORY SYNDROME CONTAGION**

**WHEREAS**, due to the outbreak of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome from China which has rapidly spread to twenty-seven (27) countries, most of which are in Asia, the Philippines is in danger of being affected adversely by the contagion unless bold, preemptive, active and immediate steps are taken;

**WHEREAS**, in the event that the epidemic can no longer be prevented, there is equally the necessity to institute such measures as would confine, restrict or otherwise prevent the further spread of the epidemic;

**WHEREAS**, Article II, Section 15 of the Constitution provides that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** *Assignment of Primary Responsibility.* – The Secretary of Health is hereby designated as the Crisis Manager for the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) contagion.

**SECTION 2.** *Powers and Functions.* – The Secretary of Health is hereby granted such powers and authority as would be necessary in order to contain, control, prevent and otherwise restrict the spread of SARS in the country until such time that the he shall declare that the SARS contagion is no longer a threat to the public health.

Specifically, the Secretary of Health shall exercise such powers necessary and incidental to ensure the following:

- a. Prevention and/or minimization of the entry of imported SARS cases into the country which includes rigid screening and identification of SARS suspects and the institutionalization of a surveillance, alert and quarantine system in all ports of entry;
- b. Prevention and/or minimization of the local spread of SARS in the country through the establishment or reinforcement of an efficient triage system, continuous contact tracing and the creation of SARS Outbreak Response Teams for screening of possible SARS cases and the implementation of effective quarantine and proper isolation procedures, including community containment measures;
- c. Prevention and/or minimization of mortality through Effective Clinical Management of possible SARS cases which entails capacity building on medical management and diagnosis among government and private medical practitioners, creation and movement of medical and paramedical pools to augment staffing of identified SARS facilities, designation of public health facilities as SARS referral and isolation centers, strengthening capacity in regions as referral centers for isolation of SARS suspects, and clinical and laboratory research as needed;

- 
- d. Education of the public on SARS and its prevention, control and management to promote positive health behaviors and address public fear and anxiety through the conduct of a nationwide SARS awareness campaign; and
  - e. In coordination with the appropriate agencies, mitigation of the non-health consequences of SARS, particularly on tourism, trade and industry, labor and employment, deployment of overseas Filipino workers and others.

**SECTION 3. *Assistance and Support.*** – The Secretary of Health is hereby empowered to call upon all agencies of the Government for assistance in the implementation of this Executive Order, including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. Department of the Interior and Local Government;
- b. Department of Foreign Affairs;
- c. Department of Transportation and Communications;
- d. Department of Education;
- e. Department of Labor and Employment;
- f. Department of Tourism;
- g. Department of Trade and Industry;
- h. Department of Social Welfare and Development;
- i. Bureau of Immigration;
- j. Air Transportation Office;
- k. Manila International Airport Authority and all other airport and seaport authorities;
- l. National Security Council; and
- m. Office of the Press Secretary.

The Secretary of Health is likewise empowered to enlist the support of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the Philippine Coast Guard for the purpose of enforcing the quarantine of a certain area or facilitating the transport and conduction of SARS patients to SARS referral centers or otherwise for the effective implementation of this Executive Order.

All agencies of the Government are hereby directed to provide the Department of Health any and all information which may prevent or minimize the entry and spread of SARS in the country.

**SECTION 4. *Funding.*** – An amount not exceeding One Billion Pesos (P1,000,000,000.00) is hereby set aside from the funds of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office to cover the financial requirements of this Executive Order.

**SECTION 5. *Classification of SARS as a Quarantinable Disease.*** – Due to its highly contagious nature and considering the danger it poses to public health, SARS is hereby classified as a quarantinable disease.

**SECTION 6. *Examination and Surveillance of Vessels and Aircraft and Quarantine.*** – Until otherwise declared by the Secretary of Health, the examination of incoming and outgoing vessels and aircraft, surveillance over sanitary conditions, including the detention, isolation, and quarantine of passengers, crews, cargoes and all personal effects found and passing through all ports and airports of entry in the Philippines, and the issuance of quarantine certificates, bills of health or other equivalent documents shall be vested in the Bureau of Quarantine and International Health Surveillance (BQIHS). The BQIHS shall continue to exercise its powers and functions vested upon it under existing laws, rules and regulations, subject to the control and supervision of the Secretary of Health.

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**SECTION 7. *Treatment and Containment of SARS.*** – The Secretary of Health, or his duly designated representative, shall promulgate such rules and regulations relative to containing, treating, and otherwise managing the treatment and condition of SARS in hospitals, health centers, quarantine areas, and such other areas where persons with SARS are found or have been isolated with due regard to the health and well-being of the victims and all those in contact with them, including the communities within the vicinity.

**SECTION 8. *Authority of the Department of Education.*** – The Secretary of Education shall have the authority to order the closure of schools, institutions of learning, vocational, technical or otherwise, including that of private institutions of learning, or the suspension of classes, or otherwise utilize such buildings and edifices for purposes of containing or managing the SARS epidemic, when so determined and upon the advice of the Secretary of Health. When circumstances so warrant, dissemination of information, health warnings and advisories shall be part of his duties and functions throughout the duration of the crisis.

**SECTION 9. *Authority of the Department of the Interior and Local Government.*** – The Secretary of the Interior and Local Government, upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Health, shall mobilize the PNP and exercise supervision over local governments for the duration of this crisis and only for the purposes contained in this Executive Order. This authority shall include the isolation and control of quarantine areas, the maintenance of peace and order related to the management of the areas affected or otherwise lend support, augmentation, and assistance to directives lawfully issued in relation to the management and control of this crisis.

For this purpose, checkpoints and other means of curtailing the movements of concerned persons, vehicles and animals may be enforced provided the same is for a definite and limited duration of time and due regard is given to the constitutional rights of all individuals. When directed by the Secretary of Health, the transport and conduction of SARS patients to hospitals or health centers for isolation and treatment shall be allowed and upheld. No arrests and detentions shall be enforced except upon lawful processes emanating from the courts or upon order of quarantine of the Secretary of Health in accordance with law for the purpose of preventing the introduction, transmission or spread of SARS.

**SECTION 10. *Responsibilities of the Department of Labor and Employment and its Bureaus and Attached Agencies.*** – The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) shall be responsible for providing information to those departing the Philippines and bound for countries affected by the SARS or bound for countries in danger of being affected by the epidemic. When so determined by the Secretary of Health and when public safety may require, the departure of persons may be prevented in those areas deemed affected. The DOLE shall likewise monitor the entry of overseas Filipino workers who may be deemed as a threat to public health.

**SECTION 11. *Responsibilities of the Department of Foreign Affairs.*** – It shall be the responsibility of the Department of Foreign Affairs to coordinate with the various embassies and consulates, provide them with adequate information, provide travel advisories, and such other measures and processes which would minimize, if not prevent, the entry into the country of persons suspected of having contracted SARS in the foreign ports of embarkation.

**SECTION 12. *Responsibilities of the Department of Transportation and Communications.*** – The Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) shall make available such infrastructure facilities within all airports, seaports and other transportation terminals as may be necessary for the implementation of this Executive Order. When the public safety requires, as may be determined by the Secretary of Health, the DOTC shall control the entry and exit of aircraft, seacraft and other forms of transportation, to prevent the introduction, transmission and spread of SARS in the country.

**SECTION 13.** *Responsibility of the Department of Trade and Industry.* – The Department of Trade and Industry shall undertake measures to prevent profiteering activities and other unscrupulous practices which are inimical to the public.

**SECTION 14.** *Responsibilities of the Bureau of Immigration.* – The Bureau of Immigration (BI) shall conduct strict arrival and departure inspections including secondary inspections on passengers going to and coming from SARS-affected countries. The BI shall maintain complete arrival and departure records of passengers arriving from and departing for SARS-affected countries and provide the Secretary of Health such information as he may require.

**SECTION 15.** *Responsibilities of the Office of the National Security Adviser and the National Security Council Secretariat.* – The Office of the National Security Adviser and the National Security Council Secretariat shall assist the Secretary of Health through: (a) the coordination of the national intelligence community in the task of gathering and evaluating information on the SARS threat; and (b) the sharing of strategic assessments on the said threat.

**SECTION 16.** *Responsibility of the Office of the Press Secretary and its Bureaus and Attached Agencies.* – The Office of the Press Secretary and its bureaus and attached agencies shall support the SARS awareness campaign of the Department of Health.

**SECTION 17.** *Responsibility of Philippine Health Insurance Corporation.* – The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation shall develop an insurance package for public health workers to assist them in defraying the cost of their hospitalization and other related medical expenses in the event that they develop SARS while in the performance of their duty.

**SECTION 18.** *Sanctions and Penalties.* – Any violation or infraction of the lawful directives and orders emanating from the duly designated authorities shall be punished in accordance with law and all applicable rules and regulations related thereto.

**SECTION 19.** *Effectivity.* – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon approval.

Done in the City of Manila, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of April, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE PHILIPPINES  
MALACAÑANG

MALACAÑANG RECORDS OFFICE

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 202

Based on the records available on file and in the possession of **Malacañang Records Office**, Executive Order No. 202 of Presidential Issuances of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo was certified by their office as a reserved number and that no original copy of this issuance was forwarded and released to them.

Malacañang Records Office. (2015). *[Memorandum: certification and official count of Presidential Issuances]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 203**  
**TRANSFERRING THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CHILDREN'S TELEVISION FROM THE**  
**OFFICE OF PRESIDENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**WHEREAS**, the National Council for Children's Television (NCCT) was created pursuant to Republic Act No. 8370, otherwise known as the "Children's Television Act of 1997" to promote and encourage the production and broadcasting of developmentally-appropriate television programs for children and to monitor the implementation of the Act and other government policies and regulations pertaining to children's broadcast programs;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 4 of the said Act, the NCCT is an attached agency of the Office of the President for purposes of administrative supervision;

**WHEREAS**, this Administration recognizes the vital importance and impact of broadcast media on the value formation and intellectual development of children under the supervision of the Department of Education (DepEd);

**WHEREAS**, under Section 17, Article VII of the Constitution, the President exercises control over all executive departments, bureaus and offices;

**WHEREAS**, Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of Executive Order 292, otherwise known as the "Administrative Code of 1987", grants to the President continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the Office of President.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The National Council for Children's Television is hereby transferred from the Office of the President to the Department of Education.

**SEC. 2.** All orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 3.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Done in the City of Manila, this 5TH day of MAY, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 204**  
**DELEGATING TO THE SECRETARY OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT THE**  
**POWER TO EXERCISE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISION OVER THE**  
**NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS COMMISSION**

**WHEREAS**, Executive power is vested in the President under Section 1, Article VII of the Constitution and under Section 11, Chapter 3, Book II of Executive Order No. 292, otherwise known as the “*Revised Administrative Code of 1987*” (the “Administrative Code”);

**WHEREAS**, Section 17, Article VII of the Constitution provides that the President shall have control of all executive departments, bureaus and offices and shall ensure that the laws be faithfully executed;

**WHEREAS**, the National Labor Relations Commission [NLRC] which was created by virtue of Presidential Decree No. 442, otherwise known as the “*Labor Code of the Philippines*,” is an agency under the Executive Department and was originally envisaged as being an integral part of the Department (then Ministry) of Labor and Employment [DOLE] under the administrative supervision of the Secretary of Labor and Employment [“Secretary of Labor”];

**WHEREAS**, upon the issuance of the Administrative Code, the NLRC, by virtue of Section 25, Chapter 6, Title VII, Book IV thereof, became an agency attached to the DOLE for policy and program coordination and administrative supervision;

**WHEREAS**, Article 213 of the Labor Code and Section 25, Chapter 6, Title VII, Book IV of the Administrative Code were amended by Republic Act No. 6715 approved on March 2, 1989, which provides that the NLRC shall be attached to the DOLE for program and policy coordination only and transferred administrative supervision over the NLRC, all its regional branches and personnel to the NLRC Chairman;

**WHEREAS**, Section 16, Article III of the Constitution guarantees the right of all persons to a speedy disposition of their cases before all judicial, quasi-judicial and administrative bodies;

**WHEREAS**, after consultations with the relevant sectors, the Secretary of Labor has recommended that the President, pursuant to her powers under the Constitution and existing laws, delegate to the Secretary of Labor the power to exercise administrative supervision over the NLRC and all its regional and sub-regional branches or provincial extension units with the objective of further improving the rate of disposition of pending cases and enhance existing measures for the prevention of graft and corruption within the said agency;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing laws, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Delegation to the Secretary of Labor.*** – The power of the President under Section 17, Article VII of the Constitution and as the administrative head of the Government to exercise administrative supervision over the NLRC, its regional branches and all its personnel, including the Executive Labor Arbiters and Labor Arbiters, is hereby delegated to the Secretary of Labor, with the objective of further improving the rate of disposition of cases pending before it and its regional

and sub-regional branches or provincial extension units and to enhance existing measures for the prevention of graft and corruption within the said agency.

For this purpose, the Secretary of Labor, in the exercise of such delegated authority, shall, among others:

- a. Generally oversee the operations of the NLRC and its regional and sub-regional branches or provincial extension units for the purpose of insuring that cases pending before them are decided or resolved expeditiously;
- b. Enhance existing measures within the agency, or initiate new ones, to prevent graft and corruption, including but not limited to, the conduct of management audits, performance evaluations and inspections to determine compliance with established policies, standards and guidelines;
- c. To take such action as may be necessary for the proper performance of official functions, including rectification of violations, abuses and other forms of maladministration; and
- d. Investigate, on its own or upon complaint, matters involving disciplinary action against any of the Presidential appointees in the NLRC, in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations. After completing his/her investigation, the Secretary of Labor shall submit a report to the President on the investigation conducted with a recommendation as to the penalty to be imposed or other action to be taken, including referral to the Presidential Anti-Graft Commission [PAGC], the Office of the Ombudsman or any other office, committee, commission, agency, department, instrumentality or branch of the government for appropriate action.

The delegation of authority conferred herein upon the Secretary of Labor shall not extend to the power to review, reverse, revise, or modify the decisions of the NLRC in the exercise of its quasi-judicial functions [*cf.* Section 38(2)(b), Chapter 7, Book IV, Administrative Code].

**SECTION 2. *Report to the President.*** – The NLRC, through its Chairman, shall submit a report to the President, through the Secretary of Labor, within thirty (30) days from issuance of this Executive Order, on the following matters:

- a. Performance Report/Audit for the last five (5) years, including list of pending cases and cases disposed of within the said period by the NLRC *en banc*, by Division and by the Labor Arbiters in each of its regional and sub-regional branches or provincial extension units;
- b. Detailed Master Plan on how to liquidate its backlog of cases with clear timetables to clean up its dockets within six (6) months from the issuance hereof;
- c. Complete inventory of its assets and list of personnel indicating their present positions and stations; and
- d. Such other matters as may be required by the President upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Labor.

**SECTION 3. *Rules and Regulations.*** – The Secretary of Labor, in consultation with the Chairman of the NLRC, is hereby authorized to issue rules and regulations for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Executive Order, subject to approval by the President.

**SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause.*** Executive Order No. 185 issued on March 10, 2003 is hereby revoked. All other executive issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 5. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation in the country.

City of Manila, MAY 05 2003

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). [*Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 205**  
DESIGNATING THE NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY AS ONE OF THE COOPERATING  
AGENCIES IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GREATER MANILA MASS TRANSPORT  
SYSTEM (GMMTS)

**WHEREAS**, the NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY owns real properties along the EDSA Corridor that will be affected by the establishment of Greater Manila Mass Transport System (GMMTS) pursuant to Executive Order No. 179 dated February 10, 2003;

**WHEREAS**, the proposed project will require the temporary use of 24-meter depth frontage areas of real properties owned by government agencies/entities located between North and East Avenues;

**WHEREAS**, the NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY, pursuant to its mandated function of providing housing opportunities for the urban poor thru socialized housing program, has to extend and prioritize assistance in the relocation of these urban poor dwellers, including provision for resettlement sites.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO** President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**Section 1. DESIGNATION.** – The National Housing Authority, hereinafter referred to as NHA, is hereby designated as one of the cooperating agencies in the establishment of the GMMTS, and as such, shall coordinate with the project implementing agency, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority, regarding the preparation, review, integration and implementation of existing and future development plans related to the proposed transport terminal aside from the functions and responsibilities as provided for in Section Nos. 4, 5, and 6 of Executive Order No. 179, Series of 2003.

**Sec. 2. ASSISTANCE IN THE RELOCATION OF INFORMAL SETTLERS** – The NHA, as lead agency, shall be responsible for the relocation and resettlement of informal settlers now occupying the vicinities of the proposed transport terminal. The NHA may create such inter-agency Technical Working Group to handle the relocation and resettlement of affected families in coordination with and assistance of concerned agencies in accordance with the procedural guidelines as provided for by pertinent provisions of Republic Act No. 7279.

**SEC. 3. PROVISION OF RELOCATION SITES** – The NHA shall provide available relocation sites for the dislocated families, otherwise, payment of allowable disturbance compensation and other appropriate assistance shall be offered to the informal settlers as may be recommended by the project implementing agency.

**SEC. 4. EFFECTIVITY** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Done, in the City of Manila, this 7TH day of MAY, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 206**  
**STRENGTHENING THE SUPPORT MECHANISM FOR THE PHILIPPINE DRUG**  
**ENFORCEMENT AGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, by virtue of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002 (Republic Act [R.A.] No. 9165), the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) was created for the efficient and effective law enforcement of all the provisions on dangerous drugs and/or precursors and essential chemicals as provided in R.A. No. 9165;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to R.A. No. 9165, the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) is the policy-making and strategy-formulating body in the planning and formulation of policies and programs on drug prevention and control;

**WHEREAS**, R.A. No. 9165 provides for the abolition of the drug enforcement units of the Philippine National Police (PNP), the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) and the Bureau of Customs (BOC);

**WHEREAS**, the same Act also provides that the personnel of the abolished units shall continue to perform their task as detail service with the PDEA until such time that the PDEA is fully operational and is able to recruit a sufficient number of new personnel to do the task themselves;

**WHEREAS**, the PDEA, as the lead agency tasked to enforce R.A. No. 9165, is still in its transition period and still has to develop its institutional capabilities to be able to accomplish its mandated task;

**WHEREAS**, other agencies of the Government have trained drug enforcement personnel who can help PDEA fulfill its task;

**WHEREAS**, there is an urgent need to pursue a forceful, intensive and unrelenting campaign against drug trafficking and the use of illegal drugs whether syndicated or street-level.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order and/or authorize:

**SECTION 1. *Creation of Task Forces.*** – The Office of the President, the PNP, the NBI and the BOC shall organize anti-drug task forces to support the PDEA.

**SECTION 2. *Supervision and Support.*** – The PDEA shall exercise operational supervision and provide technical support to the main task force created by the PNP. In the case of other task forces, created within the PNP, the NBI or the BOC, the President of the Philippines shall determine whether the DDB or the PDEA shall exercise operational supervision.

**SECTION 3. *Funding.*** – Funds for the operation of the task forces shall be sourced from the mother agencies creating the task force and from the revenues of the lotto operations of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO). For this purpose, the PCSO is hereby ordered to create a standby fund in the amount of One Billion Pesos (P1,000,000,000.00) to fund the operations of the PDEA and the task forces supporting it.

**SECTION 4. *Implementing Rules.*** – The PDEA, in coordination with the mother agencies of the task forces to be organized hereunder, shall formulate the rules and regulations to implement this Executive Order which shall be submitted for the approval of the President.

**SECTION 5. *Repeal.*** – All orders, rules, regulations and issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 6. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon approval.

City of Manila, May 15, 2003.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). [*Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 207**

**PROVIDING FOR THE REPRESENTATION OF THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO IN THE FORMULATION OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC POLICIES, PLANS AND PROGRAMS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Sections 2 and 3, Chapter 1, Subtitle C, Title II, Book V of the Administrative Code of 1987, the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) serves as the independent planning agency of the Government and is primarily responsible for formulating continuing, coordinated and fully integrated social and economic policies, plans and programs;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 5, Article IV of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 9054, the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) shall, as far as practicable, be represented in the departments, offices, commissions, agencies and bureaus of the central government or national government that implement and enforce policies, programs and projects of the central government of national government in the region;

**WHEREAS**, by virtue of Memorandum Circular No. 7 dated August 11, 1998, the NEDA was directed to coordinate the preparation of the Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP), 1999-2004, which shall be formulated in close collaboration and consultation with other agencies of the Executive Branch, the Legislative Branch, the local government units and the private/non-government sectors;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 10, Article XII of R.A. No. 9054, a Regional Economic and Development Planning Board (REDPB) was created to serve as the planning, monitoring, and coordinating agency for all development plans, projects, and programs intended for the ARMM, and which shall formulate a master plan for a systematic, progressive, and total development of the region, taking into account the development plans of the province, city, municipality, and barangay concerned as mandated by the Local Government Code of 1991 (R.A. No. 7160).

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Representation in the NEDA.*** – The ARMM Regional Governor shall be invited to attend the meetings of the NEDA Board. The ARMM Regional Governor shall likewise be invited to attend the meetings of the Committee on Social Development and the Committee on Infrastructure of the NEDA.

**Sec. 2. *Consultation with the REDPB.*** – The Autonomous Regional Government, through the REDPB, shall actively participate in the formulation of the MTPDP to ensure that the development thrusts and priorities of the ARMM are reflected therein.

**Sec. 3. *Regional Development.*** – In accordance with Executive Order No. 463 dated May 17, 1991, the REDPB shall serve as the Regional Development Council for the ARMM and the Regional Governor shall participate in all meetings of the Regional Development Council Chairmen with the President.

**Sec. 4. *Funding.*** – Funds necessary for the REDPB operations, project monitoring and evaluation, and implementation of special projects shall be included in the annual general appropriations bill submitted to Congress.

**Sec. 5. *Assistance.*** – The NEDA Secretariat, upon request of the Autonomous Regional Government, shall provide development planning assistance in the formulation of the master development plan of the ARMM.

**Sec. 6. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a national newspaper of general circulation and one (1) local newspaper of general circulation in the ARMM.

DONE, in the City of Manila this 17TH of MAY, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: Malacañang Records Office

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). [*Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 208**

**CREATING A PUBLIC-PRIVATE SECTOR TASK FORCE ON THE SECOND GLOBAL FILIPINO  
NETWORKING CONVENTION IN MANILA IN NOVEMBER, 2003**

**WHEREAS**, the Overseas Filipinos have been called the *New Heroes* of the Philippines by this administration;

**WHEREAS**, these overseas Filipinos are continually exposed to new trends, technologies and lifestyles that could be harnessed to contribute enduring economic, social and political structures that would help build a strong Republic;

**WHEREAS**, realizing the important contributions that could be expected from overseas Filipinos if properly linked and empowered, the *First Global Filipino Networking Convention* was implemented at the Moscone Center in San Francisco, California on August 31-September 1, 2002 with over 3,000 Filipinos in attendance;

**WHEREAS**, the first *Global Filipino Networking Convention* saw a community of Filipinos reaching out in solidarity and oneness of spirit; and further, that future conventions of this nature could be the venue for the organization of an International Federation of Filipino Associations (IFFA);

**WHEREAS**, the Convention seeks to advocate the importance of *networking* to promote the concept of *Global Filipino* being linked with each other across boundaries through *SHARING* – Sharing knowledge, technology, experiences, and resources to help each other and to help the country;

**WHEREAS**, the Global Filipino referred here is one who has roots in the Philippines and who resides overseas temporarily or permanently, who is willing to participate in activities that would continually assert his position in the Global marketplace for his benefit and that of his country;

**WHEREAS**, encouraged by the success of the First Convention, the Convention Committee deemed it crucial to hold the 5-day 2nd *Global Filipino Networking Convention* in the Philippines at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC), Manila in November 2003 with a target attendance of 4,000;

**WHEREAS**, the homecoming of a substantial number of these overseas Filipinos is a positive gain in all areas, contributing to the economy, becoming an immediate boon to the tourism and service industries, opening trade and investment opportunities, providing a venue for crafting economic projects that would help in the alleviation of poverty in the country, as well as in promoting and re-invigorating for the overseas Filipinos and their families in the Philippines;

**WHEREAS**, the theme of the 2nd Global Filipino Networking Convention is, “A Homecoming: A Renewal, the Blossoming of Opportunities”; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the creation of a Public-Private Sector Task Force on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Global Filipino Networking Convention.

**SECTION 1. Government Support.** - All cabinet secretaries and their departments and all other instrumentalities of government are hereby directed to extend and provide full support towards the planning and successful implementation of the 2nd Global Filipino Networking Convention.

**SEC. 2. Composition.** The Task Force shall be composed of the government officials and representatives from the private sector as follows:

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|                |   |                                                                          |
|----------------|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Honorary Chair | - | Presidential Adviser Heherson T. Alvarez                                 |
| Chair          | - | DOT Secretary Richard J. Gordon                                          |
| Co Chair       | - | DOLE Secretary Patricia A. Sto. Tomas                                    |
| Members        | - | DFA Secretary Blas F. Ople                                               |
|                | - | DILG Secretary Jose D. Lina, Jr.                                         |
|                | - | DBM Secretary Emilia T. Boncodin                                         |
|                | - | OWWA Administrator Virgilio R. Angelo                                    |
|                | - | Five (5) Private Sector Representatives to be appointed by the President |

**SEC. 3. *Functions.*** The Task Force shall coordinate public and private sector participation in organizing and holding the Global Convention. In particular, it shall develop and implement an action plan to maximize and enhance this participation, including:

- 3.1. Organizing working groups to take care of security, transportation, accommodation, publicity and promotions, marketing, programs for local government units, merchandising, preparation of convention programs, travel and tour facilitation, hospitality, and protocular arrangements, shipping and participation campaign, among others;
- 3.2. Mobilizing the private sector participation in all matters that would require the latter's resources and facilities for the success of the Convention;
- 3.3. Implementing agreements and contracts, grant incentives and honorarium, subject to applicable laws, rules and regulations;
- 3.4. Monitoring regularly the progress of the Convention's preparations to ensure its smooth and successful implementation;
- 3.5. Reporting to the Office of the President to ascertain, among others, the support and timely coordination of efforts of the government agencies concerned.

**SEC. 4. *Executive Committee*** -- An Executive Committee composed of the Task Force Honorary Chair, Chair, Co-Chair and designated Private Sector Representatives is hereby created. The Task Force may authorize the Executive Committee to act on urgent matters on its behalf.

**SEC. 5. *Existence.*** The Task Force shall cease to exist after submitting a final report to the Office of the President at the end of the Convention.

**SEC. 6. *Separability Clause.*** -- If for any reason, any part or provision of this Order should be held unconstitutional and invalid, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**SEC. 7. *Effectivity.*** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.



DONE, in the City of Manila, this 17TH day of MAY, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 209**  
**AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 121 ENTITLED “RECONSTITUTING THE**  
**BIPARTISAN EXECUTIVE-LEGISLATIVE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON SABAH ISSUES**  
**AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

**WHEREAS**, in the light of recent events, the Bi-partisan Executive-Legislative Advisory Council (BELAC) on Sabah issues was reconstituted for the second time pursuant to Executive Order No. 121 dated September 6, 2002;

**WHEREAS**, by virtue of Department Order No. 13-03, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) created the BELAC Secretariat in the DFA;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** Section 4 of Executive Order No. 121, dated September 06, 2002 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 4. Secretariat- The Council shall reorganize its Secretariat to be headed by an Executive Director who shall be the Current head of the Secretariat on Territorial Concerns of the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA)”

**SEC. 2.** All orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed of modified accordingly.

**SEC. 3.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE**, in the City of Manila this 17TH day of MAY, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source: Malacañang Records Office*

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 210**

**ESTABLISHING THE POLICY TO STRENGTHEN THE USE OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE AS  
A MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION IN THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM**

**WHEREAS**, Section 7, Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution provides that for purposes of communication and instruction, the official languages of the Philippines are Filipino and, until otherwise provided by law, English;

**WHEREAS**, it is a declared policy of the State to promote education as a means to achieve and maintain an accelerating rate of economic development and social progress;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to develop the aptitude, competence and proficiency of our students in the English language to maintain and improve their competitive edge in emerging and fast-growing local and international industries, particularly in the area of Information and Communications Technology [ICT];

**WHEREAS**, strengthening the use of the English language as a medium of instruction also depends on the improvement of the entire educational system, particularly in the training of educators and the provision of learning materials and resources;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Education [DepEd], the Commission on Higher Education [CHED] and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority [TESDA] fully support the policies sought to be established herein and have favorably endorsed the issuance of this Executive Order;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing laws, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policies.*** – The following policies are hereby established:

- a. English shall be taught as a second language, starting with the First Grade.
- b. As provided for in the 2002 Basic Education Curriculum, English shall be used as the medium of instruction for English, Mathematics and Science from at least the Third Grade level.
- c. The English language shall be used as the primary medium of instruction in all public and private institutions of learning in the secondary level, including those established as laboratory and/or experimental schools, and non-formal and vocational or technical educational institutions. As the primary medium of instruction, the percentage of time allotment for learning areas conducted in the English language is expected to be not less than *seventy percent* (70%) of the total time allotment for all learning areas in the secondary level.

It is the objective of the foregoing policies to develop the aptitude, competence and proficiency of all students in the use of the English language to make them better prepared for the job opportunities emerging in the new, technology-driven sectors of the economy.

**SECTION 2. *Institutions of Higher Education.*** – Institutions of higher education, including State Colleges and Universities [SUCs], are hereby encouraged to adopt the use of the English language as

the primary medium of instruction in the tertiary level. The CHED shall adopt measures to promote and encourage the use of the English language as the primary medium of instruction in the tertiary or higher education level.

SECTION 3. *Proficiency of Teachers.* – The DepEd, through the National Educators’ Academy of the Philippines [NEAP], the Educational Development Project Implementing Task Force [EDPITAF], the CHED, the TESDA, as well as through the educational institutions in the private sector, shall evaluate the proficiency of educators in the English language and conduct training programs nationwide to develop and improve it.

SECTION 4. *Support Mechanisms.* – The implementing authorities specified in Section 5 hereof shall undertake to secure the funding support necessary to provide adequate learning materials and resources that will develop the aptitude, competence and proficiency of students in the English language. They shall also collaborate in developing an evaluation instrument that will make it possible to monitor the progress of educators and students in achieving the policy objectives established herein.

SECTION 5. *Implementing Authorities.* – The DepEd and the TESDA are hereby directed to take active steps to ensure the implementation of this Executive Order and monitor compliance therewith in all public and private institutions of learning in the elementary and secondary levels, including those established as laboratory and/or experimental schools, and non-formal and vocational or technical educational institutions.

SECTION 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The DepEd, the CHED and the TESDA are hereby authorized to issue the appropriate rules and regulations for the effective implementation of the policies established herein.

SECTION 7. *Report to the President.* – Within thirty (30) days from the issuance of this Executive Order, the DepEd, the CHED and the TESDA shall submit to the President a plan of action to effectively implement the provisions of this Executive Order.

SECTION 8. *Use of the Filipino Language.* – Pursuant to the Constitutionally-mandated policy of the Government to ensure and promote the evolution, development and further enrichment of Filipino as the national language of the Philippines, the Filipino language shall continue to be the medium of instruction in the learning areas of Filipino and *Araling Panlipunan*.

SECTION 9. *Guarantee of Academic Freedom.* – Nothing in this Executive Order shall be construed as limiting the academic freedom of institutions of higher education.

SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause.* – All executive issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 11. *Effectivity.* – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon approval.

City of Manila, MAY 17 2003

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE PHILIPPINES  
MALACAÑANG

MALACAÑANG RECORDS OFFICE

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 211**

Based on the records available on file and in the possession of **Malacañang Records Office**, Executive Order No. 211 of Presidential Issuances of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo was certified by their office as a reserved number and that no original copy of this issuance was forwarded and released to them.

Malacañang Records Office. (2015). *[Memorandum: certification and official count of Presidential Issuances]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 212**

PROVIDING FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ARMM UNIFIED COMMAND, SOUTHERN  
COMMAND, ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP) FOR THE AUTONOMOUS  
REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO.

**WHEREAS**, Section 21, Article X of the 1987 Constitution provides that the defense and security of the autonomous region shall be the responsibility of the National Government;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 4, Republic Act 6734, as amended by RA 9054, the defense and security of the ARMM shall be the responsibility of the National Government. Towards this end, a regional command of the AFP shall be organized in accordance with national laws;

**WHEREAS**, to ensure the well-being and security of the inhabitants in Muslim Mindanao, it is necessary to station and deploy therein such elements of the Armed Forces as may be necessary in the area of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**Section 1. *Declaration of Policy*** - It is hereby declared policy of the State that the defense and security of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) shall be the responsibility of the national government.

**Section 2. *ARMM Unified Command*** - There is hereby created and organized an ARMM Unified Command under the Southern Command, Armed Forces of the Philippines, which shall be organized, maintained, and utilized in accordance with national laws. Qualified inhabitants from the ARMM shall be given preference for assignment in the said unified command.

**Section 3. *Command Relationship***. – The ARMM Unified Command shall be under the direct supervision and control of the Commander, Southcom, AFP.

The Department of National Defense (DND) and the Armed Forces of the Philippines shall determine the command relationship between Southern Command, AFP, the ARMM Unified Command and AFP-wide support units of the Major Services operating in Southern Philippines.

**Section 4. *Calling Upon the Armed Forces*** - Notwithstanding, the provisions of the preceding sections, the Regional Governor of the ARMM may request the President to call upon the Armed Forces of the Philippines:

- (a) To prevent or suppress lawless violence, invasion, or rebellion, where the public safety so requires, in the autonomous region in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution;
- (b) To suppress the danger to or breach of peace in the autonomous region, where the Regional Police Force is not able to do so; or
- (c) To avert any imminent danger to public order and security in the autonomous region.

The President may on his/her own accord send the Armed Forces of the Philippines to the autonomous region to attain the above-stated objectives if the Regional Governor does not act within fifteen (15) days after the occurrence of the treats mentioned-above.

**Section 5. Regional Emergency.** In times of regional emergency, all elements of the Regional Police Force, the Regional Bureau of Fire Protection, and the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology shall, upon direction of the President or the Regional Governor, assist the Armed Forces of the Philippines in meeting the emergency.

**Section 6. Implementing Rules.** The DND, in coordination with the Autonomous Regional Government particularly the ARMM DILG, shall formulate the rules and regulations implementing this Executive Order.

The Secretary of National Defense and all concerned AFP officials and officers are hereby directed to extend their fullest assistance and cooperation to the Autonomous Regional Government of the ARMM to ensure the implementation of this Order.

**Section 7. Separability Clause.** If, for any reason, any part or provisions of this Executive Order shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions thereof, which are not affected thereby, shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**Section 8. Repealing Clause.** All decrees, orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed, modified or otherwise amended accordingly.

**Section 9. Effectivity.** This Executive Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a national newspaper of general circulation and in a newspaper of local general circulation in the ARMM.

DONE in the City of Manila this 28th day of MAY, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: Malacañang Records Office

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). [*Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 213**  
**CREATION OF A PHILIPPINE COORDINATING COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY**  
**OF THE JAPAN-PHILIPPINES ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines is determined to improve the state of its economy and eliminate poverty;

**WHEREAS**, trade expansion and market access are necessary means to spur growth in the Philippines economy and provide increased employment opportunities;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines believes that it must deepen regional economic integration to build the foundations for sustainable growth;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines and Japan share the vision of an Asian economic integration and are committed to studying the possibility of forging a bilateral economic partnership agreement;

**WHEREAS**, an economic partnership agreement could promote stronger bilateral economic cooperation not only in trade in goods but also in such fields as tourism, services, investments, human resource development, science and technology, and other areas of interest to both parties.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** A Philippine Coordinating Committee (PCC) to study the feasibility of the Japan-Philippines Economic Partnership Agreement (JPEPA) is hereby created.

The PCC shall be composed of representatives from the following government agencies:

- 1) Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA);
- 2) Department of Trade and Industry (DTI);
- 3) Department of Agriculture (DA);
- 4) Department of Budget and Management (DBM);
- 5) Department of Education, Culture, and Sports (DECS);
- 6) Department of Energy (DOE);
- 7) Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);
- 8) Department of Finance (DOF);
- 9) Department of Health (DOH);
- 10) Department of Justice (DOJ);
- 11) Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE);
- 12) Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH);
- 13) Department of Science and Technology (DOST);
- 14) Department of Tourism (DOT);
- 15) Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC);
- 16) National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA);

- 17) Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP); and
- 18) Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)

The agencies enumerated above shall have at least one (1) permanent representative each with a rank not lower than Director. Other concerned agencies may be invited to join the PCC as may be necessary and appropriate.

The DFA Undersecretary for International Economic Relations and the DTI Undersecretary for International Trade shall act as co-chairs of the PCC. The DTI Undersecretary shall convene and conduct the meetings of the PCC. In his/her absence, the DFA Undersecretary may also convene and conduct the meetings of the PCC.

The PCC shall be convened immediately after this Executive Order takes effect.

**SEC. 2.** The functions of the PCC shall be as follows:

- a. To participate in meetings, consultations, and/or negotiations with the Japanese counterpart on the proposed JPEPA;
- b. To formulate recommended Philippine positions for the meetings, consultations and/or negotiations with the Japanese counterpart;
- c. To conduct consultations with concerned government and private sector representatives, as necessary, regarding the various issues and sectors covered in the JPEPA;
- d. To draft a proposed framework for the JPEPA and its Implementing Agreements (IAs); and
- e. To perform other functions as may be necessary.

**SEC. 3.** The Bureau of International Trade Relations (BITR) of the DTI shall act as the PCC Secretariat. The Secretariat shall be tasked to manage and coordinate the work of the PCC. The DFA, on the other hand, shall be responsible for coordinating with the PCC's Japanese counterpart.

**SEC. 4.** The DTI shall draft the final version of the proposed framework for the JPEPA and its IAs, based on the work undertaken by the PCC. It may also authorize the commissioning of consultancy and related services as may be necessary and appropriate to fulfill its functions, subject to existing rules and regulations.

**SEC. 5.** Budget - All expenses incurred in connection with the conduct of the individual agencies' functions as a member of the PCC, especially in participating in meetings, consultations, and/or negotiations in Japan, shall be borne by the respective agencies.

The DTI shall submit to the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) a work program and its corresponding budget that shall defray the cost of activities to be implemented by the PCC pursuant to this Executive Order

**SEC. 6.** Effectivity – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 28th day of MAY, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 214**  
**IMPOSITION OF APPLICABLE COMMON EFFECTIVE PREFERENTIAL TARIFF RATES ON**  
**QUALIFIED IMPORTS FROM ECOZONE LOCATORS**

**WHEREAS**, under Article 3 of the Common Effective Preferential Tariff (CEPT) Agreement and its Interpretative Notes, the Agreement shall apply to all manufactured products, including capital goods, processed agricultural products, and those products falling under the definition of agricultural products as set out in the Agreement;

**WHEREAS**, under the Agreement, the ASEAN CEPT rates shall be accorded to imports coming from ASEAN Member States applying CEPT concession on the same product;

**WHEREAS**, under the Agreement, a product is deemed originating from an ASEAN Member State, if at least 40% of its content originates from any Member State;

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act Nos. 7227, 7916, 7903 and 7922 vest the Subic Bay Free Port, Clark Special Economic Zone and other ecozones with the status of a separate customs territory, and therefore manufactured or processed products bought from ecozone locators are considered as originating from abroad;

**WHEREAS**, all products sold by ecozone locators to the domestic customs territory are imposed the MFN rates;

**WHEREAS**, the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) Board on 3 September 2002 confirmed the recommendation of the Committee on Tariff and Related Matters to impose CEPT rates on qualified imports from ecozone locators;

**WHEREAS**, Section 402 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978 (Presidential Decree No. 1464, as amended), empowers the President, upon the recommendation of the NEDA, to increase, reduce or remove existing protective rates of import duty, as well as to modify the form of import duty.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** Products manufactured in ecozones with at least 40% of its product content originating from any Member State and sold in the Philippine customs territory shall be imposed the applicable CEPT rates subject to qualification under the Rules of Origin as provided for in the Agreement on the CEPT Scheme for the AFTA signed on 26 January 1992.

**SECTION 2.** In the event that Philippine MFN rates of duty on any of the manufactured articles covered under the CEPT scheme are reduced to a rate lower than the prescribed CEPT rate, such article shall automatically be accorded the corresponding lower duty.

**SECTION 3.** Within thirty (30) days following the complete publication of this Order, the Department of Finance, the Philippine Economic Zone Authority, the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority and Clark Special Economic Zone Authority, in coordination with the Board of Investments, and other relevant agencies shall promulgate and issue the appropriate guidelines for the implementation of this Executive Order.

SECTION 4. All Presidential issuances, administrative rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are contrary or inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 5. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately following its complete publication in two newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 31<sup>st</sup> of May, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 215**  
EXTENDING THE TERM OF IMPLEMENTATION OF ITEM NO. 3(A) OF LETTER OF  
INSTRUCTIONS NO. 807 DATED FEBRUARY 9, 1979 AND ITS  
IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS

**WHEREAS**, in line with the government's social reform program, Letter of Instructions (LOI) No. 807 dated February 9, 1979 was issued directing the then Minister of National Resources to set aside 800 hectares of public land situated in the poblacion of the capital town of Digos, Davao del Sur, known as the "Crumb Estate" as reserve for the expansion of the townsite of the Municipality of Digos, Province of Davao del Sur;

**WHEREAS**, the Municipality of Digos was directed to develop the area phase by phase or in its entirety as its funds and resources may warrant within the shortest period possible but not beyond the year 2000;

**WHEREAS**, due to limited resources of the Municipality of Digos, only 60% was finished, leaving about 40% unfinished; and

**WHEREAS**, it is extremely necessary to extend the term of development, otherwise the social problem sought to be solved by LOI No. 807 may persist and will become more serious.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The period of implementation of Item No.3 of Letter of Instructions No. 807 is hereby extended from 2000 up to the year 2010.

**SEC. 2.** All orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 3.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 9th day of June, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 216**

AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 70 DATED FEBRUARY 11, 2002, ENTITLED  
“DECLARING PORTIONS OF THE PROPERTY OF THE BASES CONVERSION AND  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY LOCATED IN FORT BONIFACIO AND ITS ENVIRONS AS  
SOCIALIZED HOUSING SITES AND PROVIDING FOR THE DISPOSITION THEREOF TO  
QUALIFIED OCCUPANTS AND BENEFICIARIES

**WHEREAS**, there exists a territorial dispute between the City of Makati and the Municipality of Taguig over Fort Bonifacio;

**WHEREAS**, portions of the properties declared for socialized housing sites are included in the pending territorial dispute between Makati and Taguig;

**WHEREAS**, due to the pending territorial dispute between Makati and Taguig, both the City Government of Makati and the Municipality of Taguig ought to be included as members of the Executive Committee created for the purpose of implementing this project;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** Section 3 of Executive Order No. 70, s. 2002, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 3. **Executive Committee.** An Executive Committee shall be created to assist HUDCC in implementing this Order. This committee shall be composed of HUDCC as Chair, and the following as members: BCDA, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor (PCUP), Department of National Defense/Armed Forces of the Philippines DND/AFP in so far as military personnel residing in the areas covered, the Municipal Government of Taguig, the Congressional Representative of Taguig, the City Government of Makati and the Congressional Representative of Makati City for District II.

**SEC. 2.** All orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 3.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE, in the City of Manila this 9TH day of June, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 217**  
**CREATING THE NATIONAL TASK FORCE DIWALWAL**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 2, Article XII of the Philippine Constitution, all minerals and other natural resources are owned by the State and that the exploration, development, and utilization of natural resources shall be under the full control and supervision of the State;

**WHEREAS**, an area of particular concern for the government is the Diwalwal Mineral reservation area in Monkayo, Province of Compostela Valley, where activities of thousands of informal miners, conducting operations without the required permits from the DENR and the Mines and Geosciences Bureau for many years, have resulted in massive ecological degradation of the area and its immediate environs;

**WHEREAS**, the DENR had issued Department Administrative Order (DAO) No. 2002-18 last August 12, 2002 declaring an Emergency Situation in the Diwalwal Gold Rush Area; ordered the stoppage of all mining operations therein; and provided for Interim Guidelines to address the critical environmental and social consequences resulting therefrom;

**WHEREAS**, the Office of the President had in the meantime issued Proclamation No. 297 last November 25, 2002 excluding an area consisting of 8,100 hectares to exclude the Diwalwal mining areas and the Mabatas area from the coverage of Proclamation No. 369 dated February 27, 1931; declaring the same as a Mineral Reservation and an Environmentally Critical Area; and providing that mining operations in that Mineral Reservation may be undertaken either by the DENR directly or through a qualified contractor;

**WHEREAS**, despite the direct intervention in the mining activities at Diwalwal by the DENR and the NRDC, the critical environmental and socio-economic concerns had not been sufficiently addressed and the related problems continue to fester;

**WHEREAS**, the CPP/NPA had turned Diwalwal into its main source of funds running into millions of pesos annually to finance its insurgency activities nationwide, thus creating serious internal security concerns;

**WHEREAS**, the urgent need to formulate specifically focused policies and coordinate the implementation of measures thereof by all concerned government agencies to address all vital concerns of the government and rationalizing all mining activities in the area has attained extreme urgency;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**Section 1.** *Creation of National Task Force (NTF) Diwalwal.* National Task Force (NTF) Diwalwal is hereby constituted to be composed of the following:

|                                                |                |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Secretary of National Defense                  | Head           |
| Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources | Assistant Head |
| Secretary of Social Welfare and Development    | Member         |
| Secretary of Health                            | Member         |
| Secretary of Labor and Employment              | Member         |

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|                                                               |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Secretary of Justice                                          | Member |
| Secretary of the Interior and Local Government                | Member |
| Director General, National Economic and Development Authority | Member |
| Press Secretary                                               | Member |
| Presidential Adviser on Media Affairs                         | Member |
| Solicitor General                                             | Member |
| Commissioner, Bureau of Internal Revenue                      | Member |

**SEC. 2. *Functions and Responsibilities of the NTF Diwalwal.*** The NTF Diwalwal shall:

- a. Formulate a comprehensive plan of action in order to create an environment conducive to lasting peace and sustainable peace and sustainable development in Diwalwal and its environs;
- b. Recommend policies and programs recommendations to ensure the coordination, integration, and acceleration of government efforts and enhance the effective and immediate implementation of government's plan of action in Diwalwal;
- c. Develop and implement a Public Information Program to generate awareness on the situation among target audiences that would enhance public confidence on efforts of government in Diwalwal.
- d. Provide a mechanism for the immediate and adequate resolution of all issues and concerns affecting the rehabilitation and development of Diwalwal; and
- e. Monitor and evaluate the implementation of various programs and projects by individual departments and agencies.

**SEC. 3. *The National Task Force (NTF) Diwalwal Instrumentalities.***

- a. The NTF Diwalwal shall have Directorates headed by undersecretaries/deputy heads of concerned department/agencies to address the following concerns:
  - 1) Peace & Order and Security
  - 2) Socio-Economic Safety Nets
  - 3) Legal
  - 4) Political
  - 5) Information
  - 6) Mining and Environment
- b. An Interagency Technical Working Group (IATWG) shall be organized to provide technical assistance to the NTF Diwalwal
- c. The Operation Center (OPCEN). The OPCEN of NTF Diwalwal, shall provide operational, administrative, and secretariat support to the NTF Diwalwal.

**SEC. 4. *Program Monitoring and Coordination Center (PMCC) Diwalwal.*** At the local level, the NTF Diwalwal shall organize the Program Monitoring and Coordination Center (PMCC) Diwalwal to be located in Davao City. The PMCC shall be composed of Task Groups to handle the following concerns:

- a. Internal Security
  - b. Socio-Economic Safety Nets
-

- c. Information
- d. Mining and Environment
- e. Political (Peace and Order)

**SEC. 5. *Functions of the program Monitoring and Coordination Center (PMCC) Diwalwal.*** The Program Monitoring and Coordination Center (PMCC) Diwalwal shall:

- a. As directed by the NTF Diwalwal, ensure the effective and efficient implementation of government programs and projects in Diwalwal;
- b. Serve as a point of contact between and among concerned government offices and agencies to coordinate, integrate, and accelerate overall government response in Diwalwal;
- c. Provide a communication facility on a twenty-four (24) hour basis;
- d. Undertake monitoring functions for the NTF Diwalwal at the local level; and
- e. Direct a timely, coordinated, and integrated response to local issues and concerns in Diwalwal.

**SEC. 6. *Staff Complement.*** Members departments/agencies shall provide for the staff complement of the NTF Diwalwal and its instrumentalities as well as the PMCC Diwalwal through the detail and secondment of military and civilian personnel.

**SEC. 7. *Institutional Relationships and Linkages.*** At the national level, the NTF Diwalwal shall interface with the Cabinet Oversight Committee on Internal Security (COC-IS). At the local level, the PMCC Diwalwal shall work in close coordination with existing local Area Coordination Centers and interface with all regional and local bodies created to implement peace and order, security, and development efforts in Diwalwal and its environs, such as the Peace and Order Council and the Development Council. The PMCC Diwalwal shall likewise conduct continuing consultation with local government officials to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of government programs and projects in Diwalwal.

**SEC. 8. *Funding.*** The NTF Diwalwal shall submit to the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) a work program and its corresponding budget that shall defray the vast activities to be implemented by NTF Diwalwal pursuant to this Executive Order.

The DBM shall then recommend to the President the necessary amount to fund said activities.

**SEC. 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** The NTF Diwalwal is hereby empowered to issue the necessary rules and regulations and other guidelines to implement this Order.

**SEC. 10. *Existence.*** The Task Force shall cease to exist after the situation in Diwalwal and its environs has normalized, upon the recommendation of DND and DENR.

**SEC. 11. *Repeal.*** All orders and issuances, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 12. *Effectivity.*** This Order shall take effect immediately upon approval.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 218**  
**STRENGTHENING THE SUPPORT MECHANISM FOR THE PHILIPPINE DRUG**  
**ENFORCEMENT AGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, by virtue of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002 (Republic Act [R.A.] No. 9165), the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) was created for the efficient and effective law enforcement of all the provisions on dangerous drugs and/or precursors and essential chemicals as provided in R.A. No. 9165;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to R.A. No. 9165, the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) is the policy-making and strategy-formulating body in the planning and formulation of policies and programs on drug prevention and control;

**WHEREAS**, R.A. No. 9165 provides for the abolition of the drug enforcement units of the Philippine National Police (PNP), the National Bureau of Investigation and the Bureau of Customs;

**WHEREAS**, the same Act also provides that the personnel of the abolished units shall continue to perform their task as detail service with the PDEA until such time that the PDEA is fully operational and is able to recruit a sufficient number of new personnel to do the task themselves;

**WHEREAS**, the PDEA, as the lead agency tasked to enforce R.A. No. 9165, is still in its transition period and still has to develop its institutional capabilities to be able to accomplish its mandated task;

**WHEREAS**, other agencies of the Government have trained drug enforcement personnel who can help PDEA fulfill its task;

**WHEREAS**, there is an urgent need to pursue a forceful, intensive and unrelenting campaign against drug trafficking and the use of illegal drugs whether syndicated or street-level.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order and/or authorize:

**SECTION 1. *Creation of Task Forces.*** – The Office of the President, the PNP and other agencies which were performing drug law enforcement and prevention functions prior to the enactment of R.A. No. 9165 shall organize anti-drug task forces to support the PDEA.

**SECTION 2. *Supervision and Support.*** – The PDEA shall exercise operational supervision and provide technical support to the main task force created by the PNP. In the case of other task forces, created within the PNP or other agencies, the President of the Philippines shall determine whether the DDB or the PDEA shall exercise operational supervision.

**SECTION 3. *Funding.*** – Funds for the operation of the task forces shall be sourced from the mother agencies creating the task force and from the gross receipts of lotto operations. For this purpose, the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office is hereby ordered to create a standby fund in the amount of One Billion Pesos (P1,000,000,000.00) to fund the operations of the PDEA and the task forces supporting it.

**SECTION 4. *Repeal.*** – Executive Order No. 206 dated May 15, 2003 is hereby repealed. All orders, rules, regulations and issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 5. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon approval.

City of Manila, JUN 18 2003

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 219**

DIRECTING THE TRANSFER OF THE PHILIPPINE RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE, EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 1061, AS AMENDED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 60, S. 1986 AND EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 76 S. 2002

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to harmonize and unify the policy directions affecting the agriculture sector;

**WHEREAS**, by virtue of Executive Order No. 76, S. 2002, the Philippine Rice Research Institute was made the primary Government agency responsible for the Hybrid Rice Program (Program) and the promotion of the utilization of hybrid rice technologies;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine Rice Research Institute was established under the Department of Agriculture pursuant to Executive Order No. 1061 dated November 5, 1985, as amended by Executive Order No. 60, s. 1986, with the Secretary as the Ex-Officio Chairperson of its Board of Trustees;

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 76 amended Executive Order No. 1061 by placing the Philippine Rice Research Institute under the Office of the President for closer administrative supervision and making the Presidential Adviser for One Million Jobs as the *Ex-Officio* Chairperson of its Board of Trustees;

**WHEREAS**, in order to unify the leadership in the Hybrid Rice Program and the Department of Agriculture, there is a need to revert the PhilRice to the Department of Agriculture;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 49, Chapter 6, Title IV, Book IV of the Administrative Code of 1987 (EO 292), the Secretary of Department of Agriculture shall serve as Chairperson of the governing boards of all its attached units or agencies;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book II of EO 292, the President has the continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the Office of the President;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** Section 2 of Executive Order No. 76, amending Section 4 of Executive Order No. 1061, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 2. *Transfer*- The PHILRICE is hereby transferred from the Office of the President to the Department of Agriculture (DA).”

**SEC. 2. Reconstitution.** – The Board of Trustees of PHILRICE is hereby reconstituted and Section 4 of Executive Order No. 1061 dated November 5, 1985, as amended by Executive Order No. 60, series of 1986 and Executive Order No. 76, series, of 2002, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 4. *Board of Trustees.* – The corporate powers of the Institute shall be exercised, and all its business activities and properties shall be controlled by a Board of

Trustees, hereinafter referred to as the Board, composed of the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture as Ex-Officio Chairperson and twelve (12) other members to be appointed by the President of the Philippines upon recommendation of the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture. The appointive members of the Board shall serve for two (2) years.

The Board shall meet regularly at least once a month or as often as the exigencies of the service demand. The presence of at least seven (7) members shall constitute a quorum, and the majority vote of the members present there being a quorum shall be necessary for the adoption of any resolution, rule, regulation, decision or any other act of Board.

The members of the Board, including the Chairperson, shall receive *per diem*, as the Board may determine, for each Board Meeting actually attended: *Provided*, That such per diem shall not exceed Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00) during any one month for each member. The said members shall also be entitled to reimbursable transportation and representation allowances in going to and coming from Board Meetings and transacting official business for the Institute.”

**SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.*** – All Executive Orders, rules and regulations, and other issuances inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby revoked or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 4. *Effectivity.*** – This Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE**, in the City of Manila this 23TH day of June, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

**Source: Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). [*Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 220**  
**DIRECTING THE ADOPTION OF THE CODE OF GOOD GOVERNANCE FOR THE**  
**PROFESSIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 14, Article XII of the Constitution, “the sustained development of a reservoir of national talents consisting of Filipino scientist xxx *professionals* xxx high-level technical manpower xxx *shall be promoted by the State.*”; (underscoring supplied)

**WHEREAS**, good governance is one pillar of a strong republic;

**WHEREAS**, by virtue of the provisions of Section 5 and 7(a) of Republic Act No. 8981, otherwise known as the PRC Modernization Act of 2000, the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC), hereinafter called the Commission, is empowered to adopt policies, such as professional standards and principles designed to enhance and maintain high professional, technical, and ethical standards in the practice of the professions;

**WHEREAS**, the adoption of the Code of Good Governance will promote and establish ethical awareness and competency among Filipino professionals to make them accountable to their public liability and fully fulfill their professional obligation to their clients; and

**WHEREAS**, the Code will empower professionals not only to upgrade or improve their technical and ethical proficiency but also to keep them abreast with modern trends and technology in their respective professions, thereby assuring the highly qualitative and globally-competitive professional services, and secure the safety and protection of the public.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The Code of Good Governance for the Professions in the Philippines shall be adopted by all registered professionals.

**Sec. 2.** The Governance Advisory Council and the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) are hereby directed to undertake measures, including networking with government agencies and civil society, to effectively implement and enforce the Code through the Professional Regulatory Boards (PRBs) under the Commission’s supervision and control.

**SEC. 3.** The PRC shall, after consultation with and upon recommendation of the various Boards, issue the necessary guidelines and procedures for the enforcement of the Code.

**SEC. 4.** Repealing Clause – Any executive issuance, orders or provisions thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are deemed modified or repealed.

**SEC. 5.** Effectivity – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 221**  
AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 15 SERIES OF 1998, ENTITLED “REDIRECTING THE  
FUNCTIONS AND OPERATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL  
WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT”

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Social Welfare and Development, hereinafter referred to as DSWD, by virtue of Executive Order No. 15 Series of 1998, has been transformed from direct service deliverer to technical assistance provider as a result of the devolution of basic services to the local government units;

**WHEREAS**, despite the devolution, legislations were enacted mandating the DSWD to provide direct assistance and/or intervention to the vulnerable sectors of the society;

**WHEREAS**, the DSWD, which serves as the national policy and regulatory institution for social welfare and development, recognizes the need to strengthen its regulatory functions over the management and implementation of social welfare and development programs, office and facilities as well as social welfare and development agencies and service providers;

**WHEREAS**, in order to effectively and efficiently carry out the mandate of the DSWD, there is a need to amend Executive Order No. 15, Series of 1998.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. Mandate.** Consistent with the provisions of the Administrative Code of 1987 and Republic Act 7160 (Local Government Code), the DSWD is hereby mandated to provide assistance to local government units (LGUs), non-government organizations (NGOs), other national government agencies (NGAs), people’s organizations (POs) and members of civil society in effectively implementing programs, projects, and services that will alleviate poverty and empower disadvantaged individuals, families and communities for an improved quality of life as well as implement statutory and specialized programs which are directly lodged with the Department and/or not yet devolved to LGUs.

**SEC. 2. Roles of the DSWD.**

- a) Enabler of LGUs, NGOs, other NGAs, POs, and other members of civil society in implementing social welfare and development programs including disaster management through technical assistance, resource generation and augmentation;
- b) Implementor of statutory laws and specialized programs and services whenever these have not been devolved or localized;
- c) Developer and monitor of quality assurance measures/standards in the management/implementation of related social welfare and development programs, offices and facilities; and
- d) Licensor and accreditor of social welfare development agencies and service providers;

**SEC. 3. Powers and Functions of the DSWD.**

- a) Set standards, accredit and provide consultative services to public and private institutions, organizations and persons engaged in social welfare activities, and monitor, performance and compliance to standards by institutions, organizations and persons engaged in social welfare activities, both public and private;
- b) Implement (i) residential care and center-based programs and services serving the whole region and/or more than two provinces/cities; (ii) pilot and demonstration social welfare and development projects; regular programs involving special social services and statutory programs; and (iii) crisis intervention.

**SEC. 4. Repealing Clause.** Any executive issuance, orders or provisions thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are deemed modified or repealed.

**SEC. 5. Effectivity.** This Order shall take effect upon its approval.

**DONE**, in the City of Manila, this 30TH day of June, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 222**  
**TRANSFERRING THE PRESIDENTIAL ACTION CENTER FROM THE OFFICE OF THE**  
**PRESIDENT TO THE NATIONAL ANTI-POVERTY COMMISSION**

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the Administration to improve the quality and efficiency of public service to the Filipino people by continually adopting institutional improvements and innovations in the bureaucracy and enhancing the capacity of the President to manage the Executive Department and supervise agencies requiring greater attention by the President;

**WHEREAS**, Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987 provides continuing authority to the President to reorganize the administrative structure of the Office of the President;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law to hereby order:

**SECTION 1. Transfer** - The Presidential Action Center (PACE) is hereby transferred from the Office of the President to the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC).

**SEC. 2. Repealing Clause** - All Executive issuances, orders, rules and regulations, or any part thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 3. Effectivity** - This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**Done**, in the City of Manila, this 30TH day of June, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

**Source: Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 222-A**  
REVOKING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 222 DATED JUNE 30, 2003 ENTITLED  
“TRANSFERRING THE PRESIDENTIAL ACTION CENTER FROM THE OFFICE OF THE  
PRESIDENT TO THE NATIONAL ANTI-POVERTY COMMISSION”

**WHEREAS**, the Presidential Action Center (PACE) is originally an office under the Office of the President;

**WHEREAS**, on June 30, 2003, PACE was transferred from the Office of the President to the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC);

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, the President is clothed with continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the Office of the President.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** Executive Order No. 222 dated June 30, 2003, transferring PACE to NAPC is hereby revoked.

**SEC. 2.** All Executive issuances, orders, rules and regulations, or any part thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 3.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE**, in the City of Manila, this 31st day of March, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source: Malacañang Records Office*

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 223**  
**RECONSTITUTING THE PROJECT BOARD OF THE SOCSKSARGEN**  
**AREA DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 140 extended the life of the Soccsargen Area Development Project Office but abolished the Project Board;

WHEREAS, it has been determined that for the said Project, the inter-agency approach is the most effective mechanism for implementation:

NOW, THEREFORE, I GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the power vested in me by law, do hereby order:

Section 1. The Soccsargen Area Development Project Board is hereby reconstituted.

Section 2. The members of the said Board shall be composed of the following:

1. The Secretary of Agriculture as Chairman;
2. The Mayor of General Santos City;
3. The Governors of the Provinces of South Cotabato, North Cotabato, Sarangani, and Sultan Kudarat;
4. The Region 12 Directors of the following departments and agencies: National Economic and Development Authority, Agriculture, Public Works and Highways, Air Transportation Office, Philippine Ports Authority, Trade and Industry, Environment and Natural Resources, Interior and Local Government, and Agrarian Reform;
5. The Commanding General of the 6th Infantry Division of the Philippine Army
6. One (1) representative of the Non-Government Organizations (NGO's) sector nominated by the various NGO's accredited by the Regional Development Council of Region 12;
7. One (1) representative of the business sector nominated by the various Chambers of Commerce in the Project area.

Section 3. The Vice-Chair of the Board shall be elected by the member Local Government Executives from among themselves.

Section 4. Repealing Clause. All issuances or any parts thereof which are inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 5. Effectivity. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Done, in General Santos City this 11<sup>th</sup> day of June, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 224**

**RATIONALIZING THE EXTRACTION AND DISPOSITION OF SAND AND GRAVEL/LAHAR  
DEPOSITS IN THE PROVINCES OF PAMPANGA, TARLAC AND ZAMBALES**

**WHEREAS**, Section 17(3)(iii) of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, provides that a province shall, subject to the supervision, control and review of the Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), enforce small-scale mining law and other laws on the protection of the environment;

**WHEREAS**, Sections 4 and 8 of R.A. No. 7924, otherwise known as the Philippine Mining Act of 1995, provides that the exploration, development, utilization and processing of mineral resources shall be under the full control and supervision of the State, that it may directly undertake such activities or it may enter into mineral agreements with contractors and that the DENR shall be the primary agency responsible for the conservation, management, development and proper use of the State's mineral resources;

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order (E.O.) No. 192 mandates that the DENR shall be the primary government agency responsible for the conservation, management, development and proper use of the country's environment and natural resources as may be provide for by law in order to ensure equitable sharing of the benefits derived therefrom for the welfare of the present and future generations of Filipinos;

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 8 of R.A. 7942 further provides that industrial sand and gravel permit covering an area of more than five (5) hectares shall be issued by the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB);

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to protect and properly manage the utilization of the sand and gravel/lahar deposits of the provinces of Pampanga, Tarlac and Zambales to improve the water flows of its river systems, ensure the integrity of the various protective dikes and infrastructures, and thereby reduce risks to lives and properties;

**WHEREAS**, it is in the interest of the State that said sand and gravel/lahar deposits be properly utilized for the benefit of both local and the national governments and all concerned, with due regard to the environment.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. Processing and Issuance of Mining Permits.** The issuance of permit to extract and dispose of industrial sand and gravel/lahar deposits by the MGB shall be governed by Chapter 8 of R.A. No. 7924.

The acceptance, processing and evaluation of applications for permits to extract industrial sand and gravel/lahar deposits in Pampanga, Tarlac and Zambales shall be undertaken through a Task Force composed of the MGB and the Provincial Governor.

**SEC. 2. Creation of a Task Force.** To ensure compliance by all permit holders with the terms and conditions of their permits, properly monitor the volume of extracted materials, and collect the proper

taxes and fees from sand and gravel/lahar operations, a Task Force is hereby created for the purpose to be composed of the following:

- a. The MGB Regional Director, by himself or through his duly authorized representative - *Team Leader*
- b. The Provincial Governor, by himself or his duly authorized representative - *Deputy Team Leader*

**SEC. 3. Functions and Authorities of the Task Force.** The Task Force shall have the following functions:

- a. To accept, process and evaluate applications for permits to extract industrial sand and gravel/lahar deposits;
- b. To immediately monitor all reported illegal mining and quarrying operations and, for this purpose, set up as may be necessary checkpoints and other monitoring stations within the territorial jurisdiction of the province of Pampanga;
- c. To arrest mining/quarrying operators, and their agents and employees who willfully cooperate in the violation of provincial and national mining and environmental laws, and to confiscate and detain as evidence all instruments, objects and products of illegal mining/quarrying operations committed within the territorial jurisdiction of the Province;
- d. To immediately deliver confiscated and detained instruments, objects or products of illegal mining/quarrying operations to the nearest police station or area designated by the Task Force, which shall be properly receipted and shall not be released unless an instruction in writing to that effect is issued by the Office of the Governor; and
- e. Insofar as may be allowed by law, to assign and deputize a special contingent from the Philippine National Police specifically to assist the Task Force in the fulfillment of its functions.

**SEC. 4. Collection of Taxes, Fees and Charges.** The Task Force shall be responsible for the collection of all applicable local taxes, fees and charges and shall, among others:

- a. Issue the required DR only to legitimate sand and gravel operators/permit holders and upon the issuance of Order of Payment by the PMRB;
  - b. Ensure that the necessary taxes and fees due the local government are duly paid for prior to the issuance of any DRs;
  - c. Assist in ensuring that the excise tax for mineral products is duly paid for prior to the issuance of such DRs; and
  - d. Ensure that the appropriate share of the concerned Provinces, Municipalities and Barangays, as per Section 138 of the Local Government Code of 1991, are duly remitted fully and on time.
  - e. Render an accounting to the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources
- Excise tax payments shall likewise be immediately remitted and shared in the accordance with law.

**Sec. 5. Supplemental Orders, Rules and Regulations.** The DENR, if deemed necessary, shall issue supplemental orders, rules and regulations to effectively implement this Order.

**SEC. 6. Repealing Clause.** All orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 7. Effectivity.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 4TH of July, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 225**

AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 73 DATED FEBRUARY 24, 2002 ENTITLED  
“AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE EDSA FREEDOM CENTER INSIDE CAMP  
GENERAL EMILIO AGUINALDO, QUEZON CITY”

**WHEREAS**, The Spirit of EDSA Foundation, Inc., (SOEF) conceptualized the EDSA Freedom Center even before the creation of the EDSA People Power Commission;

**WHEREAS**, the SOEF is also a signatory to a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and SOEF whereby the Government turned over to SOEF the management and continued maintenance of the People Power Monument.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the following:

**SECTION 1.** Sections 1 and 2 of Executive Order No. 73 are hereby amended to read as follows:

“**SECTION 1.** The Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines is hereby authorized, under usufruct as defined in Civil Law, to make available to the EDSA People Power Commission and the Spirit of EDSA Foundation, Inc. a Two thousand (2,000) square meter area inside Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City, behind and adjacent to the People Power Monument, as site for the EDSA Freedom Center to be constructed, established and maintained by the EPPC and SOEF.

**SEC.2.** The Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines shall enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the EDSA People Power Commission and the Spirit of EDSA Foundation, Inc. to implement this Order, the terms and conditions of which shall be as mutually agreed upon by both Parties and approved by the Secretary of National Defense.”

**SEC. 3.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 11TH day of July, in the year of our Lord Twenty Hundred and Three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 226**  
**INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PATROL “117” AS A NATIONWIDE HOTLINE NUMBER**

**WHEREAS**, the threat to peace and order posed by criminality and other public disturbance requires the dedicated efforts of both government and private sectors;

**WHEREAS**, there is an existing mechanism that promotes peace and order and public safety called PATROL “117”;

**WHEREAS**, the PATROL “117” Program has been institutionalized as per Administrative Order No. 36 dated 3 May 2002;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to strengthen and concretize the institutionalized PATROL “117” in order to gain more adherence and volunteers; and

**WHEREAS**, the adherence and participation of all sectors is of critical importance.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Institutionalizing the Hotline “117” Network.*** - The PATROL “117” Hotline Network is hereby institutionalized as the Nationwide Emergency Hotline Number.

- a. There shall be PATROL Hotline “117” Public Safety Answering Center (Call Center) in every Region, Province, City, Municipality and Barangay.
- b. The Major Service Responders of Hotline “117” are:
  1. The Philippine National Police
  2. The Bureau of Fire Protection
  3. The Bureau of Jail Management and Penology
  4. The Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA)
  5. The National Bureau of Investigation (NBI)
  6. The Emergency Assistance and Response Network (EARnet)
  7. The MMDA (for Metro Manila), other agencies like DPWH, DOH, DSWD, PNRC, Boy Scout of the Philippines and Volunteer NGOs
  8. Others as affiliated civic sector groups
  9. Other affiliated public safety volunteers
- c. The Emergency Assistance and Response Network is a network of responders composed of Government and Private Institutions/Non-Government Institution, EMS and Special Rescue Unit of the Bureau of Fire, in coordination with the DPWH, DSWD, MMDA, DOH, Government agencies and with the cooperation of Private Hospitals, Electric Companies, Water Districts, Civil Rescue Group/Organization, Boy Scout and Girls Scout of the Philippines and other affiliated public safety volunteers and civic sector groups.

- 
- d. The establishment of the “117” Public Safety Answering Center shall anchor on the voluntary participation of the existing private communication carrier/s operating in the locality.

**SEC. 2. *Institutionalizing the PATROL “117” Community – Based Volunteer Network.*** - PATROL “117” Community-Based Volunteers Network is hereby institutionalized constituting Volunteer Service Responders Network.

- a. There shall be organized a group to advocate, train, organize, mobilize and monitor, (ATOMM) field level implementers of PATROL “117”, headed by the Chief of Police of the cities/municipalities as Team Leaders with the DILG C/M LGOOs as Co-Team Leaders and Members from various GOs and NGOs sectors, such as representative of the Office of the Mayor, Municipal/City Liga President, Municipal/City SK Chairman, Dep-Ed, Boy Scout and Girl Scout Coordinators, BFP, BJMP, NGOs and other affiliated public safety volunteers and civic sector groups.
- b. There shall be “117” Barangay-Based Volunteers Service Responders, to be organized in various components such as the studentry, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, SK and out-of-school youth.

**SEC. 3. *Institutionalizing the PATROL “117” Development Office.*** -The existing DILG PATROL “117” Development Group activated by the DILG under the PATROL “117” Commission, is hereby institutionalized to implement the PATROL “117” Program, which shall consist of uniformed personnel of the interior sector, and non-uniform plantilla of the PATROL “117”.

- a. The Streetwatch Plantilla and IACCAG Plantilla now of the DILG shall be transferred to the PATROL “117” Development Office and shall be called PATROL “117” Plantilla, subject to revision.
- b. The said unit shall be headed by a Director with an equivalent plantilla of Director IV, to be appointed by the President, upon recommendation by the Secretary of the Interior and Local Government, subject to Civil Service rules and regulations.
- c. The PATROL “117” Development unit shall be staffed with personnel, subject to existing Civil Service rules and regulations.
- d. The organization of the PATROL “117” Development office shall have parallel structure in the regional level, headed by a Regional Officer, and in the field level as necessary to monitor in the province, city and municipality of barangay operations.

**SEC. 4. *The PATROL “117” Commission.*** - The present PATROL “117” Commission as per Presidential Administrative Order No.36 dated 03 May 2002, in conjunction with Presidential Administrative Order No.124 dated 02 June 2003 shall continue to exist.

- a. The Commission’s members are:
1. The SILG and Chairman of NAPOLCOM, as Chairman
  2. The Chairman of a Private Sector Organization (Foundation for Crime Prevention), as Co-chairman.
-

3. The Members are:

a. The Government Sector

- The Department of Education, Culture and Sports
- The Commission on Higher Education
- The NTC Commissioner
- The MMDA

b. The Private Sector

- The Leading Telephone Carrier
- The Kapisanan ng Mga Brodkaster sa Pilipinas (KBP)
- The Bankers Association of the Philippines
- The Filipino Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- The Philippine Chamber of Commerce

c. The Chief, Philippine National Police

d. Four other members, to be selected by the Chairman from the private sector/organization.

**SEC. 5. *Functions of PATROL “117”:***

1. Prepare and recommend for the approval of the President proposals, measures and thrust that would effectively respond to the national security and development interest.
2. Prepare and recommend policy on crime prevention, public safety operations of volunteers and stakeholders.
3. Perform such other duties and functions as the President may direct.

**SEC. 6. *Functions of PATROL “117” Development:***

1. Responsible in planning and implementation of the PATROL “117” Program.
2. Institutionalize the Hotline “117” as a nationwide network.
3. Institutionalize the localized Service Responders Network.
4. Institutionalize the ATOMM Team Network (in every city and municipality).
5. Institutionalize the Barangay-Based Volunteer Service Responders Network.
6. Conduct review, readiness test, monitor and evaluate the response capability of all systems in “117” operations.
7. The PATROL “117” Development unit is the Secretariat of the PATROL “117” Commission.
8. Undertake such other duties as the Commission may direct.

**SEC. 7. *Involvement of Other Agencies of the Government.*** - All Government Agencies are stakeholders in the promotion of peace and order and public safety. Hence, it shall provide necessary support in the general advocacy and the implementation of the Program.

**SEC. 8. *Participation of the Private Sector.*** All Private Sectors and NGOs are enjoined to actively participate in whatever capacity to advocate crime prevention and public safety.

**SEC. 9. *Funding.*** - Initial budget of the operations of PATROL “117” Development Office shall be sourced from the savings of the Department of the Interior and Local Government allotted to the PATROL “117” Commission and from the community-based funds. Thereafter, funding requirements shall be included in the regular appropriation of the concerned Department.

**SEC. 10. *Implementing Rules and Guidelines.*** – The Secretary of Interior and Local Government shall formulate and issue appropriate implementing rules and regulations necessary in the efficient and effective implementation of any and all of the provisions of this Order.

**SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause.*** - All other executive issuances inconsistent with this Order are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 12. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 14TH day of July, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

*Source:* Malacañang Records Office

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). [*Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 227**

AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 321, S. 2000, ENTITLED: “DIRECTING THE TRANSFER OF CERTAIN GOVERNMENT PROPERTIES BETWEEN AND AMONG THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the continuing reorganization of the government, there is a need to rationalize the use of certain government properties to maximize savings;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 82, Article IX of Republic Act 9165, also known as the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002, the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) is created for the efficient and effective law enforcement of all the provisions on dangerous drugs and/or precursor and essential chemicals as provided in the Act;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 77, Article IX of RA 9165, the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) is reconstituted as the policy-making and strategy-formulating body in the planning and formulation of policies and programs on drug prevention and control;

**WHEREAS**, in order to carry out their functions effectively and efficiently, the PDEA and the DDB need a National Office that is highly accessible to their clientele and other government agencies concerned, and at the same time, cost effective and falls within the allocated budget;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine National Police has decided to return the headquarters of the National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO) to its original camp in Taguig, Metro Manila thereby vacating the Economic Intelligence and Investigation Bureau (EIIB) Building located at the National Government Center, Diliman, Quezon City, which was turned over to the PNP by the Department of Finance (DOF) by virtue of Executive Order No. 321 dated 21 November 2000;

**WHEREAS**, considering that the EIIB Building is strategically located and accessible to all agencies that the PDEA and the DDB closely coordinate with, it is most practical for the PDEA and the DDB to occupy said EIIB Building;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to amend Executive Order No. 321 s. 2000, to facilitate and authorize the transfer of the PDEA and the DDB to the EIIB Building;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The EIIB Building and land located at the National Government Center, Quezon City and presently occupied by the PNP-NCRPO is hereby transferred to the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA), which shall assume all outstanding obligations for the purchase of the lot from the National Housing Authority, as well as other liabilities for improvements introduced thereon. The Department of Finance (DOF), Department of Budget and Management (DBM), National Housing Authority (NHA) and the PDEA shall work on the appropriate scheme for the settlement of the assumed obligations of the PDEA in accordance with existing guidelines governing the settlement of accounts subsisting between agencies of the government as prescribed under Executive Order No. 739 s. 1981 and contemplated under Section 34 of the State Audit Code.

**SEC. 2.** One floor of said EIIB Building shall be allocated to the DDB as its office on a cost-sharing basis provided that ownership of the Building shall remain with the PDEA.

**SEC. 3.** The equipment, furniture and fixtures found in the EIIB compound, which the DOF, its bureaus and attached agencies no longer need and which are presently on loan to PNP-NCRPO for temporary use, shall be officially transferred by the DOF to the PDEA without cost after the conduct of physical inventory has been completed and recorded in the DOF book of accounts.

**SEC. 4.** The following properties formerly used as EIIB Regional Offices and which are now in the possession of the DOF shall be transferred to the PDEA within a period of ten (10) years for use of the PDEA's field offices and units:

- a. Land and building formerly occupied by EIIB Regional Office No. I, located at Camp Diego Silang, San Fernando, La Union;
- b. Land and building formerly occupied by EIIB CAR Regional Office, located at Camp Bado Dangwa, La Trinidad, Benguet;
- c. Land and building formerly occupied by EIIB Regional Office No. V, located at Camp Gen. Simeon Ola, Legaspi City;
- d. Land and building formerly occupied by EIIB Regional Office No. VI, located at Camp Delgado, Iloilo City;
- e. Land and building formerly occupied by EIIB Regional Office No. VII, located at Camp Sergio Osmeña, Cebu City; and
- f. Land and building formerly occupied by EIIB Regional Office No. XI, located at Camp Domingo Leonor, Davao City;

**SEC. 5.** The amount of Ten Million Pesos (P10,000,000.00) is hereby authorized to be set aside and released to the PDEA from the President's Contingent Fund and/or other available sources to be used for the repair, rehabilitation, improvement, and furnishings of the aforesaid properties to be transferred to the PDEA. Subsequent appropriations shall be incorporated in the regular budgetary allocation of the PDEA.

However, PNP funds shall be tapped to cover expenditures for the repair/development of the PNP NCRPO headquarters in Taguig, Metro Manila.

**SEC. 6.** The DOF, DBM, NHA, PNP and the PDEA shall formulate necessary guidelines and policies to implement this Order.

**SEC. 7.** Executive Order No. 321, s. 2000, is hereby amended accordingly.

**SEC. 8.** This Executive Order takes effect immediately.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 14TH day of July, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 228**  
**CREATING THE PRESIDENTIAL EMERGENCY EMPLOYMENT OFFICE, DEFINING ITS**  
**POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**WHEREAS**, it is the government's thrust to create labor intensive projects that will generate employment and livelihood for marginalized families, especially out-of-school youth;

**WHEREAS**, the country has resources that can be transformed into viable income and livelihood opportunities by introducing creative projects and programs;

**WHEREAS**, there are strategically-located vacant or idle government and GOCC's lands that can be used as vending sites for displaced street vendors, small entrepreneurs and other Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), or as venue for information dissemination campaign of various government agencies, or be utilized as farming lands for vegetable/crop production for the landless and/or the employed in the countryside;

**WHEREAS**, there is a great and urgent need to make use of all available resources to alleviate poverty in the country;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, the President has the continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the government.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Creation*** – The **Presidential Emergency Employment Office (PEEO)** is hereby created **under the Office of the President**, to be headed by the Presidential Adviser for Poverty Alleviation who shall have the rank and emoluments of a Cabinet Secretary.

**SEC. 2. *Powers and Functions***. The PEEO shall have the following powers and functions.

- a. To design, conceptualize, adopt, implement and monitor a comprehensive Emergency Employment in consonance with the job generation program of the government, in coordination with the Department of Labor and Employment;
- b. To serve as a coordinating forum for various policies, laws, rules, and regulations that need to be revised, amended or proposed, in order to attain job creation;
- c. To generate and mobilize resources from domestic and foreign resources for the implementation of the Job Creation Plan, subject to existing rules and regulations;
- d. To recommend to the President policies, strategies and programs aimed at promoting the job creation program of the government;
- e. To submit periodic reports to the President on the status of programs and projects undertaken; and
- f. To perform such other functions as the President may direct.

**SEC. 3. *Inter-Agency Coordination.*** – All concerned departments and their attached agencies, LGU's, government-owned and controlled corporations and other instrumentalities of the government are hereby directed to assist, cooperate and give full support to the PEEO to ensure effective performance of its powers and functions,

**SEC. 4. *Funding*** – Funding for the initial operations of the PEEO shall be provided by the Office of the President. Appropriations for the succeeding years shall be included in the budget proposal for the Office of the President.

**SEC. 5. *Administrative and Implementing Guidelines.*** – The PEEO shall issue administrative guidelines as may be necessary to implement this Executive Order.

**SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause*** – All orders, rules, regulations and issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 7. *Effectivity*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE, in the City of Manila this 14TH day of July, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). [*Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 229**  
**CREATING THE MINDANAO PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND**  
**AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**WHEREAS**, this Administration is committed to pursuing a policy of building peace and development;

**WHEREAS**, in order to put an end to long years of hostilities and achieve durable and lasting peace in Southern Philippines, a Peace Agreement was signed in 1996 between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF);

**WHEREAS**, the Southern Philippines Development Authority, was created by virtue of Presidential Decree No. 690 as amended by Presidential Decree No. 1703, to undertake essential developmental and economically viable ventures in the Southern Philippines;

**WHEREAS**, the SPDA was deactivated in November 2002 pursuant to Executive Order No. 149;

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 124 dated September 12, 2002 established the ARMM Social Fund for Peace and Development that has as its coverage and target beneficiaries disadvantaged conflict affected and influenced communities in the expanded Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM);

**WHEREAS**, in light of the on-going efforts to achieve lasting peace in Southern Philippines, there is a need for an implementing mechanism that can address the socio-economic needs of other conflict affected areas in Mindanao outside of ARMM; and

**WHEREAS**, under Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, the President has the continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the Executive Branch of Government pursuant to Section 20, Chapter 7, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987 (EO 292);

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Mindanao Peace and Development Fund.*** -- There is hereby established a program fund to be known as the MINDANAO PEACE & DEVELOPMENT FUND, hereinafter referred to as MPDF, under the Office of the President that shall have as its coverage and target beneficiaries disadvantaged conflict affected and influenced communities in Mindanao outside ARMM.

**SECTION 2. *Mandate.*** The MPDF shall promote the development of conflict affected areas outside of ARMM by initiating, investing and/or undertaking in partnership with non-government organizations, local government units and the private sector socio-economic projects such as improving access and provision of basic services by rehabilitating and enhancement of facilities for health, manpower development, livelihood and micro-enterprise assistance.

It may receive grants and other financial assistance (Official Development Assistance) from bilateral and multilateral agencies to enable it to carry out its objectives subject to existing rules and regulations.

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SECTION 3. *Composition of the Board.* -- The MPDF shall be managed by a Board of Directors to be appointed by the President composed of the following:

- 1) Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process;
- 2) Director General of the National Economic and Development Authority;
- 3) Chairman, Mindanao Economic Development Council; and
- 4) Six (6) members

The President shall designate from among the Board members a Chairman and Vice-Chairman. The Chairman shall preside at meetings of the Board, while the Vice Chairman shall act as chair in the absence of the Chairman.

The six members of the Board who are not from government agencies shall receive a *per diem* of Ten Thousand (P10,000.00) Pesos each for every meeting actually attended by them, Provided that the total amount of *per diem* that any member may receive shall not exceed Twenty Thousand (P20,000.00) per month.

SECTION 4. *Functions of the Board.* The Board shall perform, among others, the following functions:

1. Approve policies and implementing guidelines needed to accomplish the purpose and objectives of the MPDF.
2. Determine and approve the organizational structure, staffing pattern and pay scales of the MPDF, its officers and employees subject to existing rules and regulations.
3. Review and approve annual work and financial plan and budget of the MPDF.
4. Establish levels of authority and responsibilities of the Executive Director and other officers of the MPDF.
5. Submit an annual report to the President.
6. Perform other tasks as may be assigned by the President.

SECTION 5. *Executive Director.* — To carry out the day-to-day operations of the MPDF, an Executive Director with the rank of Undersecretary, shall be appointed by the President.

He shall have the following powers, duties and responsibilities:

- 1) To submit for the Board's consideration policies and measures which are necessary to carry out the purposes and provisions of this Order;
- 2) To prepare the budget of the MPDF for approval of the Board;
- 3) To execute and administer the policies and measures approved by the Board;
- 4) To direct and supervise the operations and internal administration of the MPDF. He may delegate certain administrative responsibilities to other officers of the MPDF subject to the rules and regulations approved by the Board;
- 5) To appoint all employees of the MPDF except the heads of Departments and divisions whose appointments shall be made by the Board upon his recommendations; and to remove, dismiss or otherwise discipline for cause, such employees in accordance with the standard guidelines for recruitment, employment and discipline of personal which shall be formulated and approved by the Board;

- 6) To represent the MPDF in all dealings with other offices, agencies and instrumentalities of the Government and with all persons and entities, public or private; and
- 7) To exercise other powers as maybe vested in him by the Board.

**SECTION 6. *Transfer of Funds & Assets*** – The remaining funds and assets of the Southern Philippines Development Authority, including its subsidiaries, projects are hereby transferred to the MPDF.

Funding requirements for the operations of the MPDF shall be included in the succeeding General Appropriations Act.

**SECTION 7. *Separability Clause***. Any portion or provision of this Executive Order that may be declared unconstitutional shall not have the effect of nullifying other portions or provisions of this Executive Order as long as such remaining portions or provisions can still subsist and be given effect.

**SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause***. — All executive orders, rules, regulations and issuances or parts thereof that are inconsistent with the provisions of this executive order are revoked, repealed and/or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 9. *Effectivity***. This Executive Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a national newspaper of general circulation.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 21<sup>ST</sup> day of July, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). [*Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 229-A**  
AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 229 DATED JULY 21, 2003 ON THE COMPOSITION  
OF THE MINDANAO PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 229 dated July 21, 2003 (EO 229) established the Mindanao Peace and Development Fund (MPDF) under the Office of the President that shall have as its coverage and target beneficiaries disadvantaged conflict-affected and influenced communities in Mindanao outside the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), and shall be managed by a Board of Directors (“Board”) to be appointed by the President;

**WHEREAS**, among the members of the MPDF Board to be appointed by the President are the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process, the Director General of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), and the Chairman of the Mindanao Economic and Development Council, among others;

**WHEREAS**, the issuance of an appointment by the President to the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process, the NEDA Director General and the Chairman of the Mindanao Economic and Development Council as members of the MPDF Board is no longer necessary considering that they sit as *ex-officio* members thereof and pursuant to the exercise of the primary functions of their office;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**Section 1. Amendment.** Section 3 of Executive Order No. 229 dated July 21, 2003 is hereby amended to read, as follows:

“**SECTION 3. Composition of the Board.** – The MPDF shall be managed by a Board of Directors composed of the following:

1. Three (3) *ex-officio* members:
  - a. Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process;
  - b. Director General of the National Economic and Development Authority;
  - c. Chairman of the Mindanao Economic Development Council; and
2. Six (6) members to be appointed by the President of the Philippines.

The President shall designate from among the Board members a Chairman and Vice-Chairman. The Chairman shall preside at meetings of the Board, while the Vice-Chairman shall act as chair in the absence of the Chairman.

The six (6) members of the Board who are not from government agencies shall receive a *per diem* of Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000.00) each for every meeting actually attended by them; *Provided*, That the total amount of *per diem* that any member may receive shall not exceed Twenty Thousand Pesos (P20,000.00) per month.”

**Section 2. Effectivity.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 31st day of October, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **EDUARDO R. ERMITA**

Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2005). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 230**

**MODIFYING THE RATES OF DUTY ON SUGAR AS PROVIDED FOR UNDER THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978, AS AMENDED, IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT PREFERENTIAL RATES THEREON UNDER THE COMMON EFFECTIVE PREFERENTIAL TARIFF (CEPT) SCHEME FOR THE ASEAN FREE TRADE AREA (AFTA).**

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine government negotiated the transfer of raw and refined sugar from its CEPT Temporary Exclusion List to its Sensitive List, which was approved by the ASEAN Ministers during the 33rd ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) Meeting held in Vietnam in September 2001;

**WHEREAS**, at its meeting on 7 May 2003, the Tariff and Related Matters Committee approved the grant of a tariff concession on imports of raw and refined sugar from the ASEAN Members in consideration of AEM approval of the Philippine request to transfer subject articles to its Sensitive List;

**WHEREAS**, Sections 104 and 402 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978 (Presidential Decree No. 1464), as amended, empower the President of the Republic of the Philippines, upon the recommendation of the National Economic and Development Authority, to increase, reduce or remove existing protective rates of import duty, as well as to modify the form of duty;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The articles specifically listed in Annex “A” hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be subject to the ASEAN CEPT rate in accordance with the schedule indicated opposite each article. The ASEAN CEPT rates so indicated shall be accorded to imports coming from ASEAN Member States applying CEPT concession to the same product pursuant to Article 4 of the CEPT Agreement and its Interpretative Notes.

**SECTION 2.** In the event that any subsequent change is made in the basic (Most Favored Nation) Philippine rate of duty on any of the articles listed in Annex “A” to a rate lower than the rate prescribed in Annex “A”, such article shall automatically be accorded the corresponding reduced rate of duty.

**SECTION 3.** From the date of effectivity of this Order, all articles listed in Annex “A” entered or withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines for consumption shall be imposed the rates of duty therein prescribed subject to qualification under the Rules of Origin as provided for in the Agreement on the CEPT Scheme for the AFTA signed on 28 January 1992.

**SECTION 4.** All presidential issuances, administrative rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are contrary to or inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 5.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately following its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Done in the City of Manila, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of July, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Reference:* Annex “A”

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 231**

AMENDING E.O. 153 ENTITLED “INSTITUTING THE NATIONAL DRIVE TO SUPPRESS AND ERADICATE PROFESSIONAL SQUATTERS AND SQUATTING SYNDICATES, AMENDING E.O. NOS. 178 S. 1999 AND 129, S. 1993 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES” BY INCLUDING THE PUBLIC ATTORNEYS’ OFFICE AS SUPPORT AGENCY

**WHEREAS**, E.O. 153, series of 2002 mandated the creation of the National Task Force against Professional Squatters and Squatting Syndicates, with the following support agencies: Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor (PCUP), Philippine National Police (PNP) Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Land Registration Authority (LRA), Land Management Bureau (LMB) and Office of the Solicitor General (OSG).

**WHEREAS**, the Public Attorneys’ Office is the lead agency assisting in the filing of cases and in providing legal assistance to victims of professional squatters and squatting syndicates.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** Section 3 of Executive Order No. 153, series of 2002, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 3. Support of Relevant Agencies. – The HUDCC and the DOJ shall have the authority to call on the following government agencies to give their full support, assistance and cooperation in the course of the implementation of this order:

i. Public Attorneys’ Office”

**SEC. 2.** All orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 3.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of **August**, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 232**

DIRECTING THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS [DOTC] TO EXERCISE PRIMARY OVERSIGHT FUNCTIONS OVER THE NORTH RAIL PROJECT, TRANSFERRING THE NORTH LUZON RAILWAYS CORPORATION [NORTHRAIL] FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT TO THE DOTC, AND REORGANIZING THE RESPECTIVE GOVERNING BOARDS OF NORTHRAIL AND THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL RAILWAYS [PNR]

**WHEREAS**, the North Rail Project was established to provide a mass transport railway system that would interconnect the former baselands from Metro Manila (Fort Bonifacio) to Central (Clark and Subic) and Northern Luzon (Poro Point);

**WHEREAS**, NORTHRAIL was incorporated and registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission as a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA) with the primary purpose to develop, construct, operate and manage a railroad system to serve Metro Manila, Central and Northern Luzon;

**WHEREAS**, to ensure the accomplishment of the objective of the North Rail Project, there is a need to establish clear lines of authority and accountability by directing a specific cabinet official to exercise primary oversight functions over the same;

**WHEREAS**, the DOTC is the primary policy, planning, programming, coordinating, implementing, regulating and administrative entity in the Executive Branch in the promotion, development and regulation of dependable and coordinated networks of transportation and communications system, as well as in the fast, safe, efficient and reliable postal, transportation and communications services;

**WHEREAS**, in order for the DOTC to effectively oversee and monitor the implementation of the North Rail Project, there is a need to transfer administrative supervision over NORTHRAIL from the Office of the President to the DOTC and to reorganize the respective Governing Boards of NORTHRAIL and the PNR to include the DOTC Secretary as *ex-officio* Co-Chairman thereof;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Primary Oversight Functions.*** – The DOTC Secretary is hereby directed to exercise primary oversight functions over the North Rail Project to oversee and monitor the effective and efficient implementation thereof.

**SECTION 2. *Transfer of NORTHRAIL.*** – NORTHRAIL is hereby transferred from the Office of the President to the DOTC, which shall exercise administrative supervision over the said agency.

**SECTION 3. *DOTC Secretary as Ex-Officio Co-Chairman.*** – In order to carry out his functions under the provisions hereof, the DOTC Secretary shall be the *ex-officio* Co-Chairman of the respective governing boards of NORTHRAIL and the PNR.

**SECTION 4. *Assistance.*** – The DOTC Secretary may call upon the Department of Finance, the Department of Tourism, the Department of Budget and Management [DBM], the Department of Public Works and Highways, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the National Economic and Development Authority, the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council,

the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority, the BCDA, the Clark Development Corporation, and any other agency of the Government for such assistance as may be necessary or appropriate in the performance of his functions.

All heads of departments, agencies, bureaus, offices, including government-owned or controlled corporations, are hereby enjoined to render full assistance and cooperation to the DOTC Secretary and provide such information and data as may be required to carry out his functions pursuant to this Order.

**SECTION 5. *Internal Audit.*** – An internal auditor for the North Rail Project shall be designated by the DOTC Secretary. Such internal auditor shall have the duty, among others, of reviewing and checking the disbursements made from the proceeds of applicable loan agreements as well as the Philippine Government counterpart funds. The internal auditor shall report to and shall be under the supervision of the DBM Secretary.

**SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.*** – All executive issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 7. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, AUG 19 2003

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). [*Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 233**

EXTENDING THE LIFE OF THE SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL TASK FORCE CREATED UNDER  
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 156 DATED OCTOBER 7, 1999 AND REORGANIZED AND  
REVIVED UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 38 DATED OCTOBER 6, 2001

**WHEREAS**, a Special Presidential Task Force (Task Force) was created to investigate and gather evidence against individuals, corporations and other entities suspected of having committed irregularities at the Bureau of Internal Revenue, the Bureau of Customs, the One Stop Shop Inter-Agency Tax Credit and Duty Drawback Center (OSS-Center), and other offices or agencies under or attached to the Department of Finance (DOF);

**WHEREAS**, the term of the Task Force will expire on October 7, 2003;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need for extending the life of the Task Force because it needs additional time within which to complete its investigation and the filing of corresponding cases in connection with the tax credit scam committed at the OSS-Center, DOF;

**NOW THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** Section 5 of Executive Order No. 38 is hereby amended to read:

“Section 5. Term. The Task force shall exist for another one (1) year to expire on October 7, 2004, unless extended by the Office of the President.”

**SECTION 2.** Section 7 of Executive Order No. 38 is hereby amended to read:

“Section 7. Funding. Subject to the usual auditing rules and regulations, the Task Force shall be provided with Two Million Pesos (Php2,000,000.00) per month funding support to be drawn from the OSS-Center’s Trust Fund. Any additional funding requirements shall require the President’s approval.”

**SECTION 3.** Effectivity. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, Philippines, this 25th day of August, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 234**  
**CREATING THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER ON OVERSEAS FILIPINO**  
**COMMUNITIES AND DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

**WHEREAS**, the government recognizes the primordial importance of Overseas Filipino Communities (OFCs) in the development and growth of our country;

**WHEREAS**, it is desirable that the President of the Philippines provide OFCs and Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) with liaison, protection, support and assistance to enhance their welfare and the well-being of their families, here and abroad, in order to keep them integral parts of the country's body politic, growth and modernization;

**WHEREAS**, Section 31, Chapter 20, Title III, Book II of Executive Order No. 292, series of 1987, otherwise known as the Administrative Code of 1987, vests upon the President the continuing authority to recognize the administrative structure of the Office of the President.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the following:

**SECTION 1. *Creation of the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Overseas Filipino Communities.*** There is hereby created the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Overseas Filipino Communities (OPAOFC), which shall provide the President with policy recommendations and courses of action to enhance, assist and protect the interest and welfare of OFCs and OFWs.

**SEC. 2. *Organizational Set-up and Staff Complement.*** The Office of the Presidential Adviser on Overseas Filipino Communities shall be under the Office of the President, to be headed by the Presidential Adviser on Overseas Filipino Communities. He shall report and be directly responsible to the President. He shall be assisted by an administrative staff to discharge his functions.

**SEC. 3. *Implementing Authority.*** The PAOFC is hereby authorized to promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Executive Order.

**SEC. 4. *Funding Support.*** The funds for necessary expenses for operation of the OPAOFC shall come from available funds of the national budget, in consultation with the Department of Budget and Management, subject to existing budgetary rules and regulations.

**SEC. 5. *Effectivity.*** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 29<sup>th</sup> day of **August**, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑAN PALACE  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 235**  
**STREAMLINING THE RULES AND PROCEDURES OF DEFENSE CONTRACTS**

WHEREAS, in line with the government's program of good governance, there is a need to streamline procedures for defense contracts for the expeditious implementation of defense projects and the speedy response to security threats while promoting transparency, impartiality, and accountability in government transactions;

WHEREAS, to achieve the foregoing, the Task Force created by the undersigned to study the procurement process and fund disbursement system of the AFP has recommended the issuance of an Executive Order to streamline the rules and procedures on defense contracts;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

Section 1. *Signing and Approving Authority.* Except for contracts required by law to be acted upon and/or approved by the President, the Secretary of National Defense shall have the authority to sign and/or approve Government contracts of the Department of National Defense and any of its bureaus, offices or agencies, before the Government contract shall be considered approved in accordance with law and binding on the Government: *Provided, however,* that the Secretary of National Defense may delegate in writing to appropriate officials, subject to appropriate ceilings, this authority to sign and/or approve a Government contract below Fifty Million Pesos (P50 Million), as he sees fit under the circumstances: *Provided, further,* that for Government contracts of the Armed Forces of the Philippines involving an amount below Fifty Million Pesos (P50 Million), the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines shall have full authority to sign the same.

Section 2. *Creation of a Single GHQ BAC; Composition.* In accordance with and subject to the provisions of law, for the purposes of the immediately preceding Section, the Armed Forces of the Philippines shall be considered as a procuring entity with respect to Government contracts pertaining to it, and it shall establish in its General Headquarters (GHQ) a single Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) to undertake all public biddings therein. The GHQ BAC shall be composed of the following members:

Regular Members:

1. Chairman, who is at least a third ranking permanent officer of the Armed Forces of the Philippines;
2. An officer, who is at least a fifth ranking permanent officer of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, with knowledge, experience, and/or expertise in procurement and, to the extent possible, represents the legal or administrative area of the Armed Forces of the Philippines;
3. An officer, who is at least a fifth ranking permanent officer of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, and, to the extent possible, represents the finance area of the Armed Forces of the Philippines;

Provisional Members:

4. An officer of the subordinate unit of the Armed Forces of the Philippines to which the procurement pertains, who has technical expertise relevant to the procurement at hand, and, to the extent possible, has knowledge, experience, and/or expertise in procurement; and
5. A representative from the end user unit who has knowledge of procurement laws and procedures.

The members of the BAC, including the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman, shall be designated by the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Moreover, the Vice-Chairman shall be selected from among the regular members of the BAC.

Section 3. *BAC Secretariat; Technical Working Group.* The Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines shall create a Secretariat which shall serve as the main support unit of the BAC. He may designate an existing organic office within the GHQ to serve as Secretariat. However, he may reorganize any relevant unit within the GHQ by designating it as a BAC Secretariat and redeploying appropriate existing personnel to it to perform this function, as well as procurement related tasks. The Head of the BAC Secretariat shall be at least a fifth ranking permanent employee.

The BAC shall be supported by a Technical Working Group. For this purpose each subordinate unit of the Armed Forces of the Philippines shall maintain a pool of technical, financial and legal experts, which pool may be called upon by the BAC, depending on the type of procurement involved, to assist in the procurement process, particularly in the review of bidding documents, in the eligibility screening, evaluation of bids and post-qualification.

Section 4. This Executive Order takes effect immediately.

11 September 2003

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 236**  
**ESTABLISHING THE HONORS CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES TO CREATE AN ORDER OF  
PRECEDENCE OF HONORS CONFERRED AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**WHEREAS**, sovereign nations confer honors to recognize distinguished achievements, acknowledge the accomplishments and services of patriotic citizens, enhance the prestige of a nation, and promote amity with other nations;

**WHEREAS**, in the history of the Republic of the Philippines, various awards and decorations have been created in recognition of achievements and distinctions;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to rationalize the roster of civil awards and decorations of the Philippines to ensure consistency of criteria in conferring honors, preserve the integrity and prestige thereof, clarify and definitively establish their order of precedence, in conformity with internationally-accepted traditional and protocular norms and practices;

**WHEREAS**, the issuance of this Executive Order is recommended by the Presidential Assistant for Historical Affairs, with the conformity of and/or in consultation with the Department of Foreign Affairs, the Department of National Defense, the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, and the National Historical Institute;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *The Honors Code.*** There is hereby established the “Honors Code of the Philippines” (hereinafter referred to as the “Honors Code”) as set out in this Executive Order.

The Honors Code emphasizes the exceptional prestige of the Honors conferred hereunder. Unless otherwise enumerated as Honors within the Order of Precedence established by this Executive Order, all other Presidential Awards, while tangible recognitions of merit and accomplishment, shall not be considered Honors for the purposes of this Honors Code.

**SECTION 2. *Definition of Terms.*** The following terms, as used in this Executive Order, shall be defined as follows:

a. Order. An Order is an award that grants membership in an exclusive association of honored individuals, and which by tradition carries with it distinctive insignia to be worn by recipients.

b. Decoration. A Decoration is a wearable award usually conferred for a specific act of meritorious service.

c. Medal. A Medal is a wearable award usually conferred to recognize service and/or achievement or to commemorate a significant event.

For purposes of this Executive Order, Orders, Decorations and Medals, which are awards of the highest prestige, are collectively referred to as Honors.

d. Award. An Award is a tangible means of recognizing accomplishment and/or merit, usually in the form of a citation, plaque, trophy or medallion.

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**SECTION 3. *Order of Precedence.*** Civilian Honors that have been and will be conferred by the Republic of the Philippines are hereby officially ranked by Order of Precedence, to emphasize the relative value, importance and seniority, as well as to enhance the prestige, of such Honors. The Order of Precedence in the Honors Code shall be as follows in descending order:

- I. Quezon Service Cross
- II. Order of Lakandula  
Order of Sikatuna  
Philippine Legion of Honor
- III. Order of Gabriela Silang
- IV. Order of National Artists  
Order of National Scientists  
Order of National Social Scientists  
*Gawad sa Manlilikha ng Bayan*
- V. *Gawad Mabini*
- VI. Order of the Golden Heart
- VII. Presidential Medal of Merit

**SECTION 4. *Order and Manner of Wear.*** The Chancellery of Philippine Orders and State Decorations, as created in this Executive Order, shall prescribe the Order and Manner of Wear for all Orders, Decorations, Medals (and/or other Presidential Awards), including those conferred by foreign governments, states, institutions, and/or individuals.

For purposes of this Executive Order, the Order and Manner of Wear shall refer to the prescribed order and manner in which insignia are to be worn, consistent with the Order of Precedence.

**SECTION 5. *Honors Conferred.***

- I. Quezon Service Cross (*Krus ng Serbisyo ni Quezon*) –

Created by Joint Resolution No. 4 dated October 21, 1946 of the First Congress of the Republic of the Philippines, the Quezon Service Cross is a Decoration conferred by the President of the Philippines with the concurrence of the Congress of the Philippines on Filipino citizens for exemplary service to the nation in such a manner and such a degree as to add great prestige to the Republic of the Philippines, or as to contribute to the lasting benefit of its people.

Nominations for the Quezon Service Cross shall state the services meriting the award and shall be made only in cases where the service performed or contribution made can be measured on the scale established by the national benefaction of the late President Manuel L. Quezon.

- II. Order of Lakandula (*Orden ni Lakandula*); Order of Sikatuna (*Orden ni Sikatuna*); Philippine Legion of Honor (*Lehiyong Pandangal ng Pilipinas*) -

Order of Lakandula

The Order of Lakandula is an Order of political and civic merit awarded in memory of Lakandula's dedication to the responsibilities of leadership, prudence, fortitude, courage and resolve in the service of one's people.

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The Order of Lakandula is conferred upon a Filipino or foreign citizen:

- a. who has demonstrated by his life and deeds a dedication to the welfare of society;
- b. whose life is worthy of emulation by the Filipino people;
- c. for deeds worthy of particular recognition, including suffering materially for the preservation and defense of the democratic way of life and of the territorial integrity of the Republic of the Philippines, for devoting his life to the peaceful resolution of conflict, or for demonstrating an outstanding dedication to the fostering of mutual understanding, cultural exchange, justice and dignified relations among individuals; or
- d. for acts that have been traditionally recognized by the institution of presidential awards, including meritorious political and civic service.

The Order of Lakandula shall be composed of the following ranks:

Grand Collar (*Supremo*) – Conferred upon an individual who has suffered materially for the preservation and defense of the democratic way of life or of the territorial integrity of the Republic of the Philippines; or upon a former or incumbent head of State and/or of government

Grand Cross (*Bayani*) – Conferred upon an individual who has devoted his life to the peaceful resolution of conflict; upon an individual whose life is worthy of emulation by the Filipino people; or upon a Crown Prince, Vice President, Senate President, Speaker of the House, Chief Justice or the equivalent, foreign minister or other official of cabinet rank, Ambassador, Undersecretary, Assistant Secretary, or other person of a rank similar or equivalent to the foregoing

Grand Officer (*Maringal na Pinuno*) – Conferred upon an individual who has demonstrated a life-long dedication to the political and civic welfare of society; or upon a *Charge d'affaires, e.p.*, Minister, Minister Counselor, Consul General heading a consular post, Executive Director, or other person of a rank similar or equivalent to the foregoing

Commander (*Komandante*) - Conferred upon an individual who has demonstrated exceptional deeds of dedication to the political and civic welfare of society as a whole; or upon a *Charge d'affaires a.i.*, Counselor, First Secretary, Consul General in the consular section of an Embassy, Consular officer with a personal rank higher than Second Secretary, Director, or other person of a rank similar or equivalent to the foregoing

Officer (*Pinuno*) – Conferred upon an individual who has demonstrated commendable deeds of dedication to the political and civic welfare of society as a whole; or upon a Second Secretary, Consul, Assistant Director, or other person of a rank similar or equivalent to the foregoing

Member (*Kagawad*) - Conferred upon an individual who has demonstrated meritorious deeds of dedication to the political and civic welfare of society as a whole; or upon a Third Secretary, Vice Consul, Attaché, Principal Assistant, or other person of a rank similar or equivalent to the foregoing

#### Order of Sikatuna

Created by Executive Order No. 571 dated February 27, 1953, as amended, in commemoration of the first treaty (*Pacto de Sangre*) between the Philippines and a foreign country, the Order of

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Sikatuna is an Order of diplomatic merit conferred upon individuals who have rendered exceptional and meritorious services to the Republic of the Philippines, upon diplomats, officials and nationals of foreign states who have rendered conspicuous services in fostering, developing and strengthening relations between their country and the Philippines, or upon personnel of the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), both in the Home Office and in the Foreign Service.

The Order of Sikatuna may be awarded by the Secretary of Foreign Affairs in the name and by authority of the President.

The Order of Sikatuna shall be composed of the following ranks:

Grand Collar (*Raja*) – Conferred upon a former or incumbent head of State and/or of government

Grand Cross (*Datu*) – The Grand Cross shall have two (2) distinctions: (i) Gold (*Katangiang Ginto*) and (ii) Silver (*Katangiang Pilak*). The Grand Cross may be conferred upon a Crown Prince, Vice President, Senate President, Speaker of the House, Chief Justice or the equivalent, foreign minister or other official of cabinet rank, Ambassador, Undersecretary, Assistant Secretary, or other person of a rank similar or equivalent to the foregoing

Grand Officer (*Maringal na Lakan*) – Conferred upon a *Charge d'affaires, e.p.*, Minister, Minister Counselor, Consul General heading a consular post, Executive Director, or other person of a rank similar or equivalent to the foregoing

Commander (*Lakan*) – Conferred upon a *Charge d'affaires a.i.*, Counselor, First Secretary, Consul General in the consular section of an Embassy, Consular officer with a personal rank higher than Second Secretary, Director, or other person of a rank similar or equivalent to the foregoing

Officer (*Maginoo*) – Conferred upon a Second Secretary, Consul, Assistant Director, or other person of a rank similar or equivalent to the foregoing

Member (*Maharlika*) – Conferred upon a Third Secretary, Vice Consul, Attaché, Principal Assistant, or other person of a rank similar or equivalent to the foregoing

#### Philippine Legion of Honor

Created by Philippine Army Circular No. 60 dated July 3, 1947, the Philippine Legion of Honor is conferred upon a Filipino or foreign citizen in recognition of valuable and meritorious service in relation to the military affairs of the Republic of the Philippines.

To signify the importance of the civil service in military affairs in the preservation of the honor of the Republic of the Philippines and in nation building, the Philippine Legion of Honor shall henceforth be conferred on the anniversary of the declaration of Philippine Independence.

The Philippine Legion of Honor may be awarded by the Secretary of National Defense in the name and by authority of the President.

The civilian division of the Philippine Legion of Honor shall be composed of the following ranks:

Chief Commander (*Punong Komandante*) - Conferred upon a civilian for life achievement in public service not otherwise qualifying for the Quezon Service Cross; or upon a former or incumbent head of State and/or of government

Grand Commander (*Maringal na Komandante*) – Conferred upon a civilian for singular acts of service with a tangible impact on the Philippine military sphere; or upon a Crown Prince, Vice President, Senate President, Speaker of the House, Chief Justice or the equivalent, foreign minister or other official of cabinet rank; or upon an Ambassador, Undersecretary,

Assistant Secretary, or other person of a rank similar or equivalent to the foregoing for life achievement in the military field

Grand Officer (*Maringal na Pinuno*) – Conferred upon a civilian for acts of exemplary merit benefiting the Republic of the Philippines; or upon a *Charge d'affaires, e.p.*, Minister, Minister Counselor, Consul General heading a consular post, Executive Director, or other person of a rank similar or equivalent to the foregoing

Commander (*Komandante*) – Conferred upon a civilian for acts of conspicuous merit benefiting the Republic of the Philippines; or upon a *Charge d'affaires, a.i.*, Counselor, First Secretary, Consul General in the consular section of an Embassy, Consular officer with a personal rank higher than Second Secretary, Director, or other person of a rank similar or equivalent to the foregoing

Officer (*Pinuno*) – Conferred upon a civilian for acts of commendable merit benefiting the Republic of the Philippines; or upon a Second Secretary, Consul, Assistant Director, or other person of a rank similar or equivalent to the foregoing

Legionnaire (*Lehiyonaryo*) – Conferred upon a civilian for acts of merit benefiting the Republic of the Philippines; or upon a Third Secretary, Vice Consul, Attaché, Principal Assistant, or other person of a rank similar or equivalent to the foregoing

### III. Order of Gabriela Silang (*Orden ni Gabriela Silang*) -

The Order of Gabriela Silang may be conferred upon the spouses of heads of State and/or of government, both Filipino and foreign.

### IV. Order of National Artists (*Orden ng mga Pambansang Alagad ng Sining*); Order of National Scientists (*Orden ng mga Pambansang Alagad ng Agham*); Order of National Social Scientists (*Orden ng mga Pambansang Alagad ng Agham Panlipunan*); *Gawad sa Manlilikha ng Bayan* (Award for National Living Treasures) -

#### Order of National Artists

Pursuant to Proclamation No. 1001 dated April 27, 1972 and Republic Act No. 7356, the Order of National Artists is the highest national recognition conferred upon Filipinos who have made distinct contributions to arts and letters, upon the recommendation of the Cultural Center of the Philippines and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA).

The National Artist for Historical Literature, created under Executive Order No. 451 dated October 9, 1997, is subsumed under the Order of National Artists.

#### Order of National Scientists

The Order of National Scientists is the highest national recognition conferred upon Filipinos for distinguished individual or collaborative achievement in the physical sciences and/or technology.

Pursuant to Book IV, Title XVIII, Section 33 of the Administrative Code of 1987, the National Academy of Science and Technology may recommend annually not more than ten (10) scientists who shall be accorded by the President the rank and title of National Scientists. National Scientists shall be given gratuities and be entitled to privileges enjoyed by National Artists.

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### Order of National Social Scientists

There is hereby created an Order of National Social Scientists, which shall be the highest national recognition conferred upon Filipinos for life achievement in the Social Sciences.

The National Academy of Science and Technology may recommend annually not more than ten (10) individuals who shall be accorded by the President the rank and title of National Social Scientists. National Social Scientists shall be given gratuities and be entitled to privileges enjoyed by National Scientists.

### Gawad sa Manlilikha ng Bayan

Pursuant to Republic Act No. 7355, otherwise known as the *Manlilikha ng Bayan* Act, the *Gawad sa Manlilikha ng Bayan* is conferred upon a Filipino citizen or group of Filipino citizens engaged in any traditional art uniquely Filipino, whose distinctive skills have reached such a high level of technical and artistic excellence and have been passed on to and widely practiced by the present generations in his/her community with the same degree of technical and artistic competence.

The *Gawad sa Manlilikha ng Bayan* is conferred pursuant to the rules, regulations and criteria promulgated by the NCCA.

### V. *Gawad Mabini* –

Created by Presidential Decree No. 490, the *Gawad Mabini* may be conferred upon personnel of the DFA, both in the Home Office and in the Foreign Service, and upon Filipinos who have rendered distinguished service or promoted the interests of the Republic of the Philippines at home and abroad.

The *Gawad Mabini* may be conferred by the Secretary of Foreign Affairs in the name and by authority of the President.

The *Gawad Mabini* shall be conferred on July 22 of every year, to commemorate the birth anniversary of Apolinario Mabini, the first Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines.

The *Gawad Mabini* shall be composed of three (3) ranks:

Grand Cross (*Dakilang Kamanong*) – Conferred upon a former or incumbent Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Chief of Mission, cabinet member or other high official who headed a Philippine delegation to an important international conference on a ministerial level and as a result thereof, made substantive contributions to public interest and public welfare

Commander (*Dakilang Kasugo*) – Conferred upon an officer with a rank between career minister to foreign service officer class IV, or upon personnel of a government agency who serves as an Attaché in a Foreign Service establishment, as recommended by the Chief of Mission or the Principal Officer of the post served, as the case may be, or by the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, in the case of personnel in the Home Office.

Member (*Kasugo*) – Conferred upon a staff officer or employee of the DFA, as recommended by the Chief of Mission or the Principal Officer of the post served, as the case may be, or by the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, in the case of personnel in the Home Office.

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#### VI. Order of the Golden Heart (*Orden ng Gintong Puso*) -

Created by Executive Order 40-A dated June 21, 1954, the Golden Heart Presidential Award is hereby renamed the Order of the Golden Heart.

The Order of the Golden Heart gives official recognition to Filipino or foreign citizens who have rendered distinguished services or given noteworthy monetary or other material aid, encouragement to the campaign for the amelioration and improvement of the moral, social, and economic conditions of the Filipino masses, and for volunteerism in the service of the Filipino masses.

The Order of the Golden Heart shall be composed of the following ranks:

Grand Collar (*Maringal na Kuwintas*)- Conferred upon a former or incumbent head of State and/or of government

Grand Cross (*Maringal na Krus*) - Conferred upon a Crown Prince, Vice President, Senate President, Speaker of the House, Chief Justice or the equivalent, foreign minister or other official of cabinet rank; or upon an Ambassador, Undersecretary, Assistant Secretary, or other person of a rank similar or equivalent to the foregoing

Grand Officer (*Maringal na Pinuno*) – Conferred upon a *Charge d'affaires, e.p.*, Minister, Minister Counselor, Consul General heading a consular post, Executive Director, or other person of a rank similar or equivalent to the foregoing

Commander (*Komandante*) - *Charge d'affaires, a.i.*, Counselor, First Secretary, Consul General in the consular section of an Embassy, Consular officer with a personal rank higher than Second Secretary, Director, or other person of a rank similar or equivalent to the foregoing

Officer (*Pinuno*) – Conferred upon a Second Secretary, Consul, Assistant Director, or other person of a rank similar or equivalent to the foregoing

Member (*Kagawad*) – Conferred upon a Third Secretary, Vice Consul, Attaché, Principal Assistant, or other person of a rank similar or equivalent to the foregoing

#### VII. Presidential Medal of Merit (*Pampanguluhang Medalya ng Merito*) –

The Presidential Merit Award is hereby renamed the Presidential Medal of Merit.

The Presidential Medal of Merit shall be conferred upon an individual, Filipino or foreign:

- a. for outstanding service to the President, the Administration or cabinet members;
- b. for gaining prestige for the country in an international event, in the fields of literature, the sciences, the arts, entertainment, and other civilian fields of endeavor that foster national pride and artistic excellence;
- c. who is a retiring cultural worker or artist, after serving the government in an official or advisory capacity, or a foreign artist who has promoted Philippine culture; or
- d. for acts of merit that enhance the prestige of the Republic of the Philippines, including heading the Philippine delegation or having contributed materially to the success of a major international conference or event that has brought prestige and honor to the country, including Presidential visits overseas and major international events held in the Philippines.

**SECTION 6. *Posthumous Honors.*** All Honors may be conferred posthumously, in which case they shall be received by the legal heirs; or if there be no heir or nearest of kin, by any person designated by the President of the Philippines to receive an Honor on behalf of the deceased.

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**SECTION 7. *Other Presidential Awards.*** The President may confer Presidential Awards not otherwise included in the Order of Precedence of the Honors Code, as set out in Section 3 of this Executive Order. For the avoidance of doubt, Presidential Awards not otherwise enumerated in Section 3 of this Executive Order are not considered Honors, as defined herein.

**SECTION 8. *The Chancellery of Philippine Orders and State Decorations.*** There is hereby created the Chancellery of Philippine Orders and State Decorations (hereinafter referred to as the “Chancellery”) in the Office of Presidential Protocol. In coordination with the Office of Protocol and State Visits, DFA, the Chancellery shall be responsible for the implementation of this Executive Order, as well as for all technical and protocular matters relating to the Honors Code to ensure compliance with qualitative standards and international norms and practice.

The Chancellery shall:

- a. Maintain and update a roster of all individuals, Filipino or foreign, who have received Honors from the government of the Republic of the Philippines, and provide copies thereof to the Office of Protocol and State Visits, DFA and to the Heraldry and Display Section, National Historical Institute (NHI);
- b. Promulgate and update, when necessary, appropriate guidelines for general distribution on the Order and Manner of Wear;
- c. Where appropriate and necessary to respond to changing circumstances and conditions, recommend modifications to the Order of Precedence and/or the Honors Code;
- d. In consultation with the Heraldry and Display Section, NHI, create, maintain, revise, redesign and/or enhance specific technical drawings and schematics for the official specifications of Orders, Decorations, Medals, and Presidential Awards, unless otherwise directed by the President of the Philippines;
- e. Consistent with procurement laws, rules and regulations, approve manufacturers and/or suppliers of Orders, Decorations, Medals, Presidential Awards, and related items to ensure consistency of quality, in consultation with the Heraldry and Display Section, NHI;
- f. Supervise and ensure adherence by manufacturers and/or suppliers to promulgated specifications;
- g. Promulgate appropriate guidelines to implement this Executive Order, subject to the approval of the President of the Philippines; and
- h. Perform all other functions as may be necessary to achieve the objectives of and consistent with this Executive Order.

**SECTION 9. *Committee on Honors.*** There is hereby created a Committee on Honors (hereinafter referred to as the “Committee”) composed of the following:

|               |   |                                               |
|---------------|---|-----------------------------------------------|
| Chairman      | : | Executive Secretary                           |
| Vice Chairman | : | Secretary of Foreign Affairs                  |
| Members       | : | Head, Presidential Management Staff           |
|               |   | Presidential Assistant for Historical Affairs |
|               |   | Chief of Presidential Protocol                |
|               |   | Chief of Protocol and State Visits, DFA       |

The Committee shall assist the President in evaluating nominations for recipients of Honors hereunder, as well as of Presidential Awards. For this purpose, the Committee may authorize relevant

departments or government agencies to maintain Honors and/or Awards Committees to process nominations for Honors and/or Presidential Awards.

The Committee shall meet quarterly or as often as it deems necessary to perform its functions.

The Chancellery shall provide the necessary technical and administrative support to the Committee.

**SECTION 10. *Schedule of Conferment of Honors.*** Honors shall be conferred on national holidays; Provided, That conferment of Honors may, if deemed necessary or warranted by the President of the Philippines, be made on other occasions.

**SECTION 11. *Discontinuance of Previous Awards.*** a. Upon the effectivity of this Executive Order, only Honors enumerated under Section 3 hereof shall be awarded. Accordingly, the following civilian Awards shall no longer be conferred:

- (i) Medal of Honor
  - (ii) Rizal Collegiate Palms
  - (iii) Mabini Teachers Medal
  - (iv) Rizal Pro Patria Award
  - (v) Presidential Citation for Honesty and Integrity
  - (vi) Order of the Grieving Heart
  - (vii) Presidential Award in Education
  - (viii) Order of Kalantiao
  - (ix) Republic Cultural Heritage Award
  - (x) Presidential Citation for Outstanding Humanitarian Services
  - (xi) International Artist
  - (xii) Bayani ng Bagong Republika
  - (xiii) Presidential Citation for Outstanding Service to Philippine Democracy
  - (xiv) Presidential Award for Heroism in Times of Disaster
  - (xv) Sajid Bulig Presidential Award for Heroism
  - (xvi) Presidential Mineral Industry Environment Award
- b. The above-mentioned civilian Awards shall remain extant during the lifetime of the last holder of the respective Awards, and the holders of said Awards shall continue to enjoy the rights and privileges thereof. Thereafter, the respective affected Awards shall cease to exist and be discontinued.
- c. All other Awards which have not heretofore been mentioned may continue to be awarded as Presidential Awards, but such Awards shall not be considered Honors for purposes of this Honors Code.

**SECTION 12. *Implementation.*** The Chancellery shall coordinate with the Office of Protocol and State Visits, DFA, the NCCA, the Heraldry and Display Section, NHI, and other relevant government agencies to obtain copies of all records and memoranda, paraphernalia, items and technical or schematic drawings relevant to the implementation of this Executive Order.

**SECTION 13. *Affected Issuances.*** This Executive Order is based on the pertinent provisions of the following:

- a. Congressional Joint Resolution No. 4 dated October 21, 1946;
- b. Presidential Decree No. 490;



- c. Proclamation No. 1151 dated June 7, 1973;
- d. Republic Act No. 7355;
- e. Executive Order No. 251 dated January 17, 1940;
- f. Executive Order No. 571 dated February 27, 1953, as amended by Executive Order No. 24 dated October 19, 1962 and Executive Order No. 174 dated February 26, 1969;
- g. Executive Order No. 663 dated December 29, 1953;
- h. Executive Order No. 40-A dated June 21, 1954;
- i. Executive Order No. 429 dated June 2, 1961;
- j. Executive Order No. 9 dated May 12, 1962;
- k. Executive Order No. 20 dated April 12, 1966, and Memorandum Order No. 33 dated June 14, 1966;
- l. Executive Order No. 268 dated October 29, 1970;
- m. Executive Order No. 294 dated March 1, 1971;
- n. Executive Order No. 316 dated May 6, 1971;
- o. Executive Order No. 329 dated August 10, 1971;
- p. Proclamation No. 1001 dated April 27, 1972;
- q. Executive Order No. 930 dated January 6, 1984;
- r. Executive Order No. 316 dated January 19, 1988, as amended by Executive Order No. 323 dated April 12, 1988;
- s. Executive Order No. 421 dated September 7, 1990, and Memorandum Order No. 318 dated September 7, 1990;
- t. Executive Order No. 393 dated January 22, 1997;
- u. Executive Order No. 399 dated February 3, 1997; and
- v. Executive Order No. 451 dated October 9, 1997.

Administrative Order No. 362 dated September 30, 1997 is hereby amended.

All other Presidential directives, issuances, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof insofar as they are inconsistent with this Executive Order are likewise hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 19th day of September, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: Malacañang Records Office

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 237**

**DIRECTING THE CONDUCT OF A NATIONAL FOLLOW UP MEASLES CAMPAIGN ON  
FEBRUARY 2004 AND DESIGNATING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AS THE LEAD  
AGENCY FOR THE PURPOSE**

**WHEREAS**, sustaining high measles immunization coverage has been proven effective in combating the measles infection and deaths and interruption of measles transmission;

**WHEREAS**, in 1998 the Philippines adopted a ten-year plan, otherwise known as the Philippines Measles Elimination Campaign (PMEC) through Presidential Proclamation No. 4, which aims to interrupt the circulation of measles virus in all communities by 2008;

**WHEREAS**, the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the Philippine Measles Elimination Campaign (PMEC) was successfully implemented in 1998 through the collaborative efforts of national and local governments, communities, religious, and business sectors and international agencies;

**WHEREAS**, the government has declared a policy to promote the rights of children to survival, development, special protection and participation with full recognition of the nature of childhood and its special needs;

**WHEREAS**, in support of this policy, Congress passed the Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) Act (Republic Act No. 8980) which commit the institutionalization of a national system for ECCD that is comprehensive, integrative and sustainable, that involves multi-sectoral and interagency collaboration at all levels;

**WHEREAS**, the Local Government Code states that the local government shall be responsible for the delivery of basic health services and the Department of Health (DOH) shall assist these local government units;

**WHEREAS**, addressing this concern shall be efficiently undertaken through the joint effort of the national and local government and other key stakeholders, the community and the parents;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the conduct of a nationwide follow-up measles campaign to be called the “Ligtas Tigdas” Campaign on February 2004. Free measles vaccines shall be given to all children currently residing in the Philippines between ages 9 months to less than 8 years of age.

**SECTION 1. *Lead Agency.*** The Department of Health, through the Secretary of Health, shall lead in the implementation of the “Ligtas Tigdas” campaign on February 2004. As such, he shall be empowered to call upon all agencies of the Government for assistance in the implementation of this Executive Order, including, but not limited to the following:

- a) Department of Interior and Local Government
- b) Department of Education
- c) Department of Social Welfare and Development
- d) All Local Government Units (LGU)

As the lead agency, the Department of Health shall formulate and disseminate guidelines and procedures on the implementation of the campaign; provide technical assistance to LGUs; conduct national/regional advocacy and social mobilization activities; provide all the necessary vaccines and other logistics, allocate and distribute in a timely manner, all measles vaccines, syringes and needles, safety boxes to all catchment areas, and monitor all LGU activities in all phases of the campaign.

**SEC. 2. *Responsibilities of the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG).*** The DILG, through the Secretary of Interior and Local Government, shall issue and disseminate appropriate memorandum circulars to all local chief executives, mobilize field offices, and directly oversee activities, supervise, monitor and evaluate immunization activities in order to ensure high performance immunization coverage in all communities.

**SEC. 3. *Responsibilities of the Department of Education (DepEd).*** The DepEd, through the Secretary of Education, shall ensure high immunization coverage in all public and private schools by exerting all efforts to inform parents and guardians of target schoolchildren about the campaign and mobilizing all medical teams to conduct vaccination in schools in coordination with LGUs. The DepEd shall issue and disseminate appropriate circulars for the purpose.

**SEC. 4. *Responsibilities of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).*** The DSWD, through the Secretary of Social Welfare and Development, shall ensure that all target children enrolled in Day Care Centers and other welfare institutions under their supervision are vaccinated against measles, issue and or disseminate appropriate circulars, and assist in the advocacy and social mobilization for the purpose of this campaign, in coordination with the LGUs.

**SEC. 5. *Responsibilities of Local Government Units.*** The LGUs shall lead the local implementation of the campaign, exerting special effort to encourage every family to have their children immunized so that 100% of the target children are vaccinated. As such, they shall extend appropriate resources to ensure the success of the campaign including the conduct of vigorous social mobilization activities; issuance of appropriate ordinances, resolutions, memorandum circulars, and other relevant orders. They are likewise ordered to submit accomplishment reports of the immunization activities two (2) weeks after the completion of the immunization period;

**SEC. 6. *Participation of the Civil Society:*** All non-government organizations, members of civil society and other concerned groups are encouraged to contribute to the success of the campaign through information dissemination, social mobilization, recruitment of volunteers, providing donations, and other appropriate means.

**SEC. 7. *Effectivity:*** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon approval.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of September, in the year of the Lord, two-thousand and three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By authority of the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: Malacañang Records Office

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). [*Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 238**

**AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 241 BY EXPANDING THE POWERS AND FUNCTIONS  
AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE FAMILY WEEK**

**WHEREAS**, Section 12 Article II, of the Constitution of the Philippines provides that, “The state recognizes the sanctity of family life and shall protect and strengthen the family as a basic autonomous social institutions”;

**WHEREAS**, Section I Article XV, of the same Constitution provides that, “The state recognizes the Filipino Family as the foundation of the nation”;

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the government to foster solidarity in the family and actively work for its development;

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the State to encourage non-governmental and sectoral organizations to promote the welfare of the Filipino Family;

**WHEREAS**, while there exist a National Steering Committee overseeing the proper observance of Family Week every last week of September in accordance with Executive Order No. 241 dated June 9, 1995, implementing Presidential Proclamation No. 60 dated September 28, 1992, there is a need to expand its powers and functions to ensure that all programs and activities on the family, including among others the proper observance of the forthcoming Anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004, shall be effectively implemented;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to expand the membership of the National Steering Committee of the Family Week in order that there will be more effective and sustained planning, coordination and promotion of programs and activities that would increase awareness of the importance of the Family and ensure active participation and implementation from both the public and private sectors.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the amendment of Executive Order No. 241 dated June 9, 1995 by expanding the powers and functions of the National Steering Committee of the Family Week to be henceforth known as the *National Committee on the Filipino Family* and increasing the membership therewith.

**SECTION 1. Purposes of the National Steering Committee on the Filipino Family.** The National Steering Committee on the Filipino Family shall promote the family as the foundation of the nation, its basic social institution, as well as the protection of marriage as the foundation of the family. It shall likewise provide opportunities for partnership with private sector particularly civic and religious, marriage and family organizations, educational institutions and media groups in promoting the goals and objectives of the Council.

**SEC. 2. Powers and Functions.** The National Steering Committee on the Filipino Family shall have the following powers and functions:

- 
- 2.1 To formulate policies, plan and promote strategies for an effective national program on the family;
  - 2.2 To draw up a mechanism between and among the various national department and local government units, and the private sector particularly civic and religious, marriage and family organizations, educational institutions and media groups for the mobilization, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of effective family life programs;
  - 2.3 To conduct studies, researches and cause the publication of articles and books on marriage family;
  - 2.4 To encourage opportunities for training on human relations development among groups and individual engaged in family life programs;
  - 2.5 To set up and administer a national family development fund for its programs and projects;
  - 2.6 To plan, coordinate and evaluate the yearly celebration of the National Family Week (Amends E.O. No. 241 and PP No. 60) the National Family Thanksgiving Day (PP No. 847), the National Mother's Day, the National Father's Day, the National Grandparents Day, the International Year of the Family, and such other celebration for the family;
  - 2.7 To ensure the institutionalization of Family Week and Family Thanksgiving Day through the participation of all concerned;
  - 2.8 To network with all concerned government agencies and non-government organizations in the effective discharge of its functions;
  - 2.9 To perform such powers and functions as necessary to carry out the provisions of this Executive Order.

**SEC. 3. Composition.** The National Steering Committee on the Filipino Family shall be chaired by the Secretary of Social Welfare and Development of his/her designated Undersecretary and a Vice-Chairperson who shall be elected from among the non-governmental organizations, civic and religious, marriage and family organizations, educational institutions and media groups represented and shall be composed of the following government agencies and private sector entities.

### 3.1 Government Agencies

- 3.1.1 Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)
- 3.1.2 Department of Education (DepEd)
- 3.1.3 Department of Health (DOH)
- 3.1.4 Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG)
- 3.1.5 Commission on Higher Education (CHED)
- 3.1.6 National Youth Commission (NYC)
- 3.1.7 National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women (NCRFW)
- 3.1.8 National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP)
- 3.1.9 Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC)
- 3.1.10 Presidential Management Staff (PMS)
- 3.1.11 Office of the Presidential Adviser for Special Concerns (OPASC)
- 3.1.12 Office of the Muslim Affairs (OMA)
- 3.1.13 Philippine Information Agency (PIA)
- 3.1.14 Senate Committee on Youth Women and Family
- 3.1.15 House Committee on Population and Family Relations

### 3.2 Non-Government Entities

- 3.2.1 CBCP Episcopal Commission on the Family and Life (ECFL)
- 3.2.2 The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- 3.2.3 Iglesia ni Cristo
- 3.2.4 National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP)
- 3.2.5 Kaisahang Buhay Foundation (KBF)
- 3.2.6 Marriage Enhancement and Teams Services Foundation (METS Foundation)
- 3.2.7 NORFIL Foundation
- 3.2.8 National Council of Social Development Foundation, Inc. (NSCD)
- 3.2.9 Family Life Institute Family Network
- 3.2.10 Pro-Life Philippines Foundation

The National Steering Committee on the Filipino Family as the need arises may invite government agencies and non-government organizations not mentioned above as additional members of the National Committee on the Filipino Family.

**SEC. 4. Funding.** The necessary amount to be incurred in connection with the implementation of this Order shall be primarily funded under the budget of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and secondarily shared by the government departments and agencies concerned, charged against their respective regular budgets. And, therefore, funds for the operation of the activities and programs, shall be included in the General Appropriations Act. Further, the National Steering Committee on the Filipino Family may engage in resource generation/mobilization activities as may be allowed by law to ensure the success and continued operation of the National Steering Committee on the Filipino Family and its programs and projects.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: Malacañang Records Office

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 239**  
**RATIONALIZING THE OFFICE OF NORTH LUZON GROWTH QUADRANGLE AREA AND  
DEFINING ITS POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**WHEREAS**, the Local Government Code provides for inter-LGU collaboration wherein “local government units may group themselves, consolidate, or coordinate their efforts, services and resources for purposes commonly beneficial to them;”

**WHEREAS**, the North Luzon Growth Quadrangle Area is an integrated region, composed of Region I, Region II and the Cordillera Administrative Region, established to stimulate trade, investment and tourism activities, generate jobs, expand businesses, and create export markets for local produce, thereby reducing the incidence of poverty in said regions;

**WHEREAS**, the North Luzon Growth Quadrangle Area should be efficiently administered in line with the national government’s goal of achieving a Strong Republic through effective governance, vigorous free enterprise economy, true and vigorous democratic representation, and a vibrant civil society;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** *Creation of the Office of North Luzon Growth Quadrangle Area.*—The Office of North Luzon Growth Quadrangle Area (ONL-GQA) is hereby created to facilitate the integrated development of Region I, Region II and the Cordillera Administrative Region. The ONL-GQA shall oversee the promotion of the socio-cultural development of the Ilocanos and other Filipino workers within and outside the North Luzon Growth Quadrangle Area, as well as promote trans-border economic cooperation with neighboring advanced economies and cause the inter-regional economic growth of North Luzon communities.

**SECTION 2.** *Presidential Adviser for North Luzon Growth Quadrangle Area.*—The President shall appoint a Presidential Adviser with the rank of Cabinet Secretary to head the Office of North Luzon Growth Quadrangle Area. The Presidential Adviser shall report directly to the President and shall assist the President in mobilizing local support, national leadership assistance, and international cooperation in developing North Luzon.

**SECTION 3.** *Functions and Responsibilities of the Office of North Luzon Growth Quadrangle Area.*—The Office of North Luzon Growth Quadrangle Area (ONL-GQA) shall have the following functions and responsibilities:

- a) Monitor the proper coordination of the development goals, policies and programs formulated for the North Luzon Growth Quadrangle Area with the overall national goals, policies and programs;
- b) Promote investments in the North Luzon Growth Quadrangle Area;
- c) Mobilize the participation of the local and national government agencies, as well as non-government organizations and private sector groups;

- d) Undertake trade and investment missions in pursuance of trans-border relations and conduct liaison with associations of Ilocanos abroad;
- e) Maintain linkages with central government offices and the official development assistance community;
- f) Monitor and conduct periodic review of the plans, programs and projects for the North Luzon Growth Quadrangle Area;
- g) Address matters concerning Ilocano and other indigenous peoples affairs and issues relative to the pursuit of the goals and objectives of the North Luzon Growth Quadrangle Area;
- h) Recommend the annual budget and program of work of the Program Management Office—North Luzon Growth Quadrangle Area (PMO-NLGQA); and
- i) Call on any agency for any assistance and support on matters relative to its plans, programs and projects.

**SECTION 4.** *Secretariat Support for the Office of North Luzon Growth Quadrangle Area.*—The Program Management Office of the North Luzon Growth Commission (PMO-NLGC) created under Executive Order No. 114 dated June 28, 1999 shall act as secretariat to provide administrative and technical support.

**SECTION 5.** *Effectivity.*—This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, September 24, 2003.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 240**  
CREATING AND MANDATING THE OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
NATIONAL DEFENSE (DND) UNDERSECRETARY FOR INTERNAL  
CONTROL TO INSTITUTIONALIZE REFORMS IN THE PROCUREMENT  
AND FUND DISBURSEMENT SYSTEMS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF  
NATIONAL DEFENSE (DND) AND THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP)

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the State to maintain honesty and integrity in public service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption.

**WHEREAS**, subject to reasonable conditions prescribed by law, the State adopts and implements a policy of full public disclosure of all its transactions involving public interest.

**WHEREAS**, in line with the government's program of good governance, there is a need to streamline procedures for defense contracts for the expeditious implementation of defense projects and the speedy response to security threats while promoting transparency, impartiality and accountability in government transactions.

**WHEREAS**, an interim Presidential Task Force was created to study and reform the procurement and fund disbursement systems of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) vis-à-vis delivery of mandate and functions;

**WHEREAS**, the aforecited Task Force completed its work and immediately implemented some of its recommendations including the institutionalization of a single Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) within the AFP, among others.

**WHEREAS**, to sustain and institutionalize these initiatives in the AFP and to ensure continuous execution of such reform measures within the organization, a complementary Department of National Defense (DND) structure will be necessary to rationalize the operational systems and reporting procedures of the Department.

**NOW THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Creation and Mandate.*** The Office of the Undersecretary for Internal Control is hereby created in the DND. Among its functions shall be to institutionalize reforms in the procurement and fund disbursement systems in the DND and AFP.

**SECTION 2. *Duties and Functions Regarding Institutional Reforms in the Procurement and Fund Disbursement Systems in the DND and AFP.*** Among its functions and duties, the Office of the Department of National Defense (DND) Undersecretary for Internal Control shall perform the following:

- a) To recommend and implement improvements in the Procurement and Fund Disbursement Systems of the DND and AFP, and to ensure timely delivery of logistical requirements with the right quality and quantity.
- b) To ensure the efficiency of the Procurement and Fund Disbursement of the DND and AFP vis-à-vis the delivery of the respective mandate and functions of these institutions.



- c) To ensure that adequate internal controls are in place at the DND and AFP in the areas of procurement and fund disbursement systems, to determine adherence to existing rules and regulations and their responsiveness to operational requirements. The Undersecretary shall therefore facilitate the establishment of Internal Audit Service Units both at the DND and AFP levels to fulfill this objective, in accordance with Republic Act (R.A.) No 3456 dated 16 June 1962 as amended by R.A. No. 4177 dated 26 March 1965, and Administrative Order (A.O.) No. 278 dated 28 April 1992 as amended by A.O. No. 70 dated 14 April 2003.
- d) To coordinate with concerned government and non-government institutions the conduct of capacity-building activities and skills enhancement trainings in the areas of procurement and fund disbursement to concerned entities of the DND and AFP, to equip the latter with appropriate tools and techniques on the same.
- e) To facilitate the establishment of a single Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) in the DND for AFP procurement contracts over ₱50 million such as centrally managed and peculiar items. The Undersecretary shall likewise ensure the proper implementation of Executive Order No. 235 (series of 2003) entitled “Streamlining the Rules and Procedures of Defense Contracts” for AFP-wide procurement below ₱50 million.

**SECTION 3. *Multi-Sectoral Support.*** In its task of institutionalizing reforms in the procurement and fund disbursements in the DND and AFP, the following are enjoined to assist the Office of the DND Undersecretary for Internal Control:

**Assistant Commissioner Arcadio B. Cuenco, Jr.**

Commission on Audit

**Assistant Executive Secretary Alberto A. Bernardo**

Internal Audit Service, Office of the President

**Major General Cicero L. Castellano**

Armed Forces of the Philippines

**Major General Carlos F. Garcia**

Armed Forces of the Philippines

**Director Virginia G. Garriel**

Department of Budget and Management

**Director Richardo S. San Andres**

Association of Government Internal Auditors of the Philippines

**Professor Victor S. Limlingan**

Asian Institute of Management.

For the purpose of the mandate, duties and functions cited herein, the DND Undersecretary for Internal Control shall be supported by a secretarial staff, the members of which shall be determined and constituted by the Internal Audit Service of the Office of the President.

**SECTION 5. *Effectivity.*** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 24<sup>th</sup> day of **September**, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 241**

**MODIFYING THE NOMENCLATURE AND THE RATES OF IMPORT DUTY ON VARIOUS  
PRODUCTS UNDER SECTION 104 OF THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978  
(PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1464, AS AMENDED).**

**WHEREAS**, developments in the domestic and global economic environments warrant the modification in the rates of duty on certain products to provide temporary relief to local manufacturers and enable them to further enhance their competitiveness;

**WHEREAS**, Section 401 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978 (Presidential Decree No. 1464), as amended, empowers the President of the Republic of the Philippines to increase, reduce, or remove existing rates of import duty, as well as to modify the tariff nomenclature.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The articles specifically listed in Annex “A” hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be subject to the rates of import duty for the periods in accordance with the schedule indicated in the column opposite each article;

**SECTION 2.** The nomenclature and rates of import duty on tariff headings not enumerated and those listed but represented by the symbol “x x x” shall remain in force and in effect;

**SECTION 3.** Upon effectivity of this Executive Order, the articles specifically listed in the aforesaid “Annex” which are entered and withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines for consumption shall be levied the rates of duty herein prescribed;

**SECTION 4.** All Presidential issuances, administrative rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked or modified accordingly;

**SECTION 5.** This Executive Order shall take effect thirty (30) days following its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Done in the City of Manila, Philippines, this 2nd day of October, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 242**

AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 93, SERIES OF 2002, ENTITLED “MODIFYING THE RATES OF DUTY ON CERTAIN IMPORTED ARTICLES AS PROVIDED UNDER THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978, AS AMENDED, IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THE PREFERENTIAL TARIFF RATES ON CERTAIN PRODUCTS UNDER THE ASEAN INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION (AICO) SCHEME, IN FAVOR OF HONDA CARS PHILIPPINES, INC. (HONDA)- (COE NOS. HONDA/2001/15 & HONDA/2001/16)”.

**WHEREAS**, AICO Certificate of Eligibility No. Honda/2001/16 was issued on 31 October 2001 to Oriental Assemblers Sdn. Bhd., Honda Autoparts Manufacturing [M] Sdn. Bhd., and Honda Cars Philippines, Inc., as participating companies in the Honda AICO Arrangement which shall qualify for 0-5% preferential tariff rates, local content accreditation where applicable, and other privileges to be extended by Malaysia and the Philippines.

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the said Certificate of Eligibility, Executive Order No. 93 dated 9 April 2002 was issued implementing the preferential tariff rates on certain products under the AICO Arrangement of Honda Cars Philippines, Inc., Oriental Assemblers Sdn. Bhd., and Honda Autoparts Manufacturing [M] Sdn. Bhd. on certain original equipment manufacture (OEM) automotive parts/components for Honda CR-V light commercial vehicles (8702.90 10) and Civil and Accord passengers cars (8703.90 10);

**WHEREAS**, on 24 March 2003, AICO Certificate of Eligibility No. Honda/2001/16(A) was issued to Honda Malaysia Sdn. Bhd., Honda Autoparts Manufacturing [M] Sdn. Bhd., and Honda Cars Philippines, Inc. thus nullifying AICO Certificate of Eligibility No. Honda/2001/16 issued to Oriental Assemblers Sdn. Bhd., Honda Autoparts Manufacturing [M] Sdn. Bhd., and Honda Cars Philippines, Inc.;

**WHEREAS**, it is thus necessary to amend Executive Order No. 93 to effect the change of one of the participating companies from Oriental Assemblers Sdn. Bhd. To Honda Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, pursuant to the powers vested in me under Section 402 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The fourth **WHEREAS** Clause of Executive Order No. 93 dated 09 April 2002 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“**WHEREAS**, under the Honda AICO Arrangement the Philippines (Honda Cars Philippines, Inc.) will import from Malaysia (Honda Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. And Honda Autoparts Manufacturing [M] Sdn. Bhd.) certain original equipment manufacture (OEM) automotive parts/components for Honda CR-V light commercial vehicles (HS 8702.90 10). In exchange Malaysia will import from the Philippines complementary parts/components for the OEM of Honda CR-V”

**SECTION 2.** Section 2 of Executive Order No. 93 dated 09 April 2002 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“The AICO rate provided in Annex “A” shall be accorded to the AICO entity in Indonesia (PT Honda Prospect Motor), and to the AICO entities in Malaysia (Honda Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. And Honda Autoparts Manufacturing [M] Sdn. Bhd.) upon the effectivity of this Executive Order”

**SECTION 3.** Annex “A” of Executive Order No. 93 dated 09 April 2002 is hereby amended to read as follows:

**ANNEX “A”**

**ARTICLES GRANTED PREFERENTIAL TARIFF UNDER  
APPROVED HONDA AICO SCHEME**

| HS CODE    | MODEL/TYPE                        | PRODUCT<br>DESCRIPTION       | PART NOS.         | SOURCE<br>COUNTRY (AICO<br>COMPANY)                                                                | APPLICABLE AICO<br>PREFERENTIAL<br>TARIFF (%) |
|------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| (1)        | (2)                               | (3)                          | (4)               | (5)                                                                                                | (6)                                           |
| 8702.90 10 | CR-V Light<br>commercial vehicles | Face, FR<br>Bumper           | 71101-S9A-0000    | Malaysia (Honda<br>Malaysia Sdn.<br>Bhd. And Honda<br>Autoparts<br>Manufacturing [M]<br>Sdn. Bhd.) | 3                                             |
| 8702.90 10 | CR-V Light<br>commercial vehicles | Face, RR<br>Bumper           | 71101-S9A-0000    | Malaysia (Honda<br>Malaysia Sdn.<br>Bhd. And Honda<br>Autoparts<br>Manufacturing [M]<br>Sdn. Bhd.) | 3                                             |
| 8703.90 10 | CIVIC Passenger<br>cars           | Relay (Assy),<br>Turn Signal | 38300-S5A-0030-TH | Indonesia (PT.<br>Honda Prospect<br>Motor)                                                         | 3                                             |
| 8703.90 10 | ACCORD<br>Passenger cars          | Head Assy,<br>Cyln.          | 1210C-PAL-P000    | Indonesia (PT.<br>Honda Prospect<br>Motor)                                                         | 3                                             |

**SECTION 4.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Done in the City of Manila, Philippines, this 3rd day of October, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACANANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 243**

TEMPORARILY REDUCING/SUSPENDING THE RATES OF IMPORT DUTY ON FREQUENTLY  
USED SPARE AND REPLACEMENT PARTS FOR JEEPNEYS AND BUSES  
UNDER SECTION 104 OF THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978  
(PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1464), AS AMENDED

**WHEREAS**, the transport services sector is an important industry which moves goods and people to their destinations;

**WHEREAS**, the temporary reduction/suspension in the rates of duty will mitigate the impact of the high cost of frequently used spare and replacement parts for jeepney and buses;

**WHEREAS**, the reduction of cost of repair and maintenance of transport vehicles will prevent further increase in transport fares;

**WHEREAS**, Section 401 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, empowers the President to increase, reduce or remove existing rates of duty, as well as, to modify the tariff nomenclature.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The articles specifically listed in “Annex A” hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be imposed the MFN rates of import duty in accordance with the schedule indicated opposite each article.

**SEC. 2.** Upon the effectivity of this Executive Order, the articles in the aforesaid “Annex A”, which are imported by duly accredited program proponent shall be levied the rates of duty herein prescribed.

**SEC. 3.** The Secretary of Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) together with the Department of Transportation and Communication (DOTC), Department of Finance (DOF), and the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), shall issue appropriate guidelines including the accreditation mechanism to implement the tariff privilege herein granted. The guidelines shall be issued within two (2) weeks from the complete publication of this Executive Order.

**SEC. 4.** All other Presidential issuances, administrative rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revokes or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 5.** This Executive Order shall be effective for a period of six (6) months which shall commence immediately following its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.



DONE in the City of Manila, this 2nd day of October, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Reference:* Annex A

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 244**

MODIFYING THE RATES OF DUTY ON MOTOR VEHICLES, AS PROVIDED FOR UNDER THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978 (PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1464, AS AMENDED), IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT PREFERENTIAL RATES THEREON UNDER THE AUTOMOTIVE EXPORT PROGRAM.

**WHEREAS**, the automotive industry is an important contributor to sustainable national economic development;

**WHEREAS**, the government issued E.O. 156, series of 2002 establishing a Comprehensive Industrial Policy and Directions for the Motor Vehicle Development Program to develop the Philippines as the manufacturing hub in ASEAN for certain motor vehicles, parts and components;

**WHEREAS**, an integral component of the Comprehensive Motor Vehicle Development Program under E.O. 156 is the provision of special export incentives to the automotive sector;

**WHEREAS**, temporary export incentives will compensate for certain structural deficiencies that inhibit the automotive industry's attainment of global competitiveness;

**WHEREAS**, the benefits from the development of the automotive industry's global competitiveness will outweigh the tariff revenues to be foregone from the grant of preferential tariffs on imports;

**WHEREAS**, Sections 401 and 402 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978 (Presidential Decree 1464), as amended, empower the President of the Republic of the Philippines to increase, reduce, or remove existing rates of import duty, as well as to modify the tariff nomenclature;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The articles specifically listed in Annex "A" hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be subject to the Most Favored Nation (MFN) rate of import duty in accordance with the schedule indicated under the "MFN" column;

**SECTION 2.** The articles specifically listed in Annex "A" hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be subject to the ASEAN CEPT rate of import duty in accordance with the schedule indicated under the "CEPT" column. The ASEAN CEPT rate so indicated shall be accorded to imports coming from ASEAN Member States applying CEPT concession to the same product pursuant to Article 4 of the CEPT Agreement and its interpretative Notes;

**SECTION 3.** Upon the effectivity of this Executive Order, the articles specifically listed in the aforesaid Annex "A", which are entered and withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines for consumption, shall be levied the MFN rate of duty herein prescribed;

**SECTION 4.** Upon the effectivity of this Executive Order, the articles specifically listed in the aforesaid Annex "A", which are entered and withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines for consumption, shall be levied the CEPT rate herein prescribed, subject to qualification under the Rules of Origin as provided for in the Agreement on the CEPT scheme for the AFTA signed on 28 January 1992;

**SECTION 5.** All Presidential issuances, administrative rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked or modified accordingly;

**SECTION 6.** The Department of Trade and Industry, in consultation with the National Economic Development Authority and the Department of Finance, shall issue appropriate guidelines to implement the preferential tariff privilege herein granted in accordance with the conditions of the Program shown in Annex “B”;

**SECTION 7.** This Executive Order shall be effective for a period of five (5) years, from 1 January 2004 until 31 December 2008, following its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Done in the City of Manila, Philippines, this 3rd day of October, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

*References:* Annexes A and B

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 245**

MODIFYING THE RATES OF DUTY ON CERTAIN IMPORTED ARTICLES AS PROVIDED UNDER THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978, AS AMENDED, IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THE PREFERENTIAL TARIFF RATES ON CERTAIN PRODUCTS UNDER THE ASEAN INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION (AICO) SCHEME, IN FAVOR OF NISSAN MOTOR PHILIPPINES, INC. (NISSAN) – (COE NO. NISSAN/2003/5)

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines is a Contracting Party to the Basic Agreement on the ASEAN Industrial Cooperation Scheme signed in Singapore on 27 April 1996;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines is a participating country in the approved AICO Arrangements of Nissan Motor Philippines, Inc. along with Thailand;

**WHEREAS**, under the Nissan AICO Arrangement, the Philippines (Nissan Motor Philippines, Inc.) will import from Thailand (Siam Nissan Automobile Co. Ltd.) certain original equipment manufacture (OEM) automotive parts/components for Nissan Sentra passenger cars (HS 8703.90 10). In exchange, Thailand will import from the Philippines complementary component parts for OEM Nissan Sunny passenger cars;

**WHEREAS**, AICO Certificate of Eligibility No. Nissan/2003/5 was issued on 10 April 2003 in favor of the participating companies in the Nissan AICO Arrangement;

**WHEREAS**, in consonance with Articles 5 and 7 of the Basic Agreement of the (AICO) Scheme, participating companies in the approved Nissan AICO Arrangement shall qualify for 0-5% preferential tariff rates to be extended by the Philippines and Thailand as participating countries.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, pursuant to the powers vested in me under Section 402 of the Tariff and Custom Code of the 1978, as amended, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The articles specifically listed in “Annex A” hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be accorded the AICO rate of 3% on parts/components of Nissan Sentra passenger cars (HS 8703.90 10) as specified in Column 6 thereof.

**SEC. 2.** The AICO rate provided in Annex “A” shall be accorded to the AICO entity in Thailand (Siam Nissan Automobile Co. Ltd.) upon effectivity of this Executive Order.

**SEC. 3.** In the event that any subsequent changes are made in the basic Most Favored Nation (MFN) Philippine rate of duty on any of the articles listed in Annex “A” to a rate lower than the AICO rate prescribed in Column 6 of Annex “A” such articles shall automatically be accorded the corresponding reduced rate of duty.

**SEC. 4.** Upon the effectivity of this Executive Order, the articles specifically listed in the aforesaid Annex “A” which are entered or withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines for consumption shall pay the applicable AICO preferential tariff rates specified under Section 1 hereof, subject to qualification under the rules of Origin for CEPT, as evidenced by the Certificate of Origin-Form “D”.

SEC. 5. Any revision to the part numbers and to the AICO company appearing in Column 4 and Column 5, respectively, of Annex “A” as well as in the pertinent Section of this Executive Order shall be communicated immediately to the Bureau of Customs by the Board of Investments within five (5) days after receipt of the official copy of the COE on the revised part number/s and/or change or addition of AICO company from the ASEAN Secretariat

SEC. 6. This Executive Order shall be effective immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 3rd day of October, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Reference:* Annex “A”

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 246**  
**DESIGNATING CALAMBA CITY AS REGIONAL CENTER OF REGION IV-A (CALABARZON)**

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 103 dated May 17, 2002, divided Region IV into IV-A (CALABARZON) and IV-B (MIMAROPA) and transferred Aurora Province to Region III;

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Development Council IV-A affirmed the choice of Calamba City as the site of the regional center for Region IV-A having been established as a center of industrial development and urban activities; and

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of Calamba City as regional center will foster better coordination and promote efficiency in the discharge of functions between and among agencies operating in the CALABARZON area.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** Calamba City is hereby designated as the regional center of Region IV-A (CALABARZON).

**SEC. 2.** The Regional Development Council of Region IV-A shall immediately undertake necessary steps for the site development of the CALABARZON regional center in Calamba City.

**SEC. 3.** All national line agencies shall locate their regional offices in Calamba City as soon as possible and provide the necessary budgetary and other requirements for this purpose.

**SEC. 4.** All orders, rules, regulations and issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 5.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 28th day of October, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source: Malacañang Records Office*

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 247**  
**MANDATING THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TO**  
**COORDINATE NATIONAL TRANSIT TRANSPORT**

**WHEREAS**, the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Goods in Transit (“Framework Agreement”) was signed on 16 December 1998 in Hanoi, Vietnam;

**WHEREAS**, ASEAN member countries have agreed to harmonize and simplify their domestic rules, regulations and administrative procedures relating to transit transport in accordance with the Framework Agreement;

**WHEREAS**, Article 29.1 of the Framework Agreement provides that a National Transit Transport Coordinating Committee (NTTCC) shall be established in each ASEAN member country for the effective and efficient coordination, monitoring and implementation of the said Framework Agreement.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The Secretary of Transportation and Communications shall coordinate national transit transport with the following objectives:

- a. To provide a consultative forum, on a national-level, for a concerted effort to simplify and harmonize formalities, procedures and documentation used in transit transport in international trade;
- b. To propose responsive transit transport and trade-related policies, rules, regulations and practices;
- c. To increase public awareness and acceptance of the practices, methods and benefits of transit transport operations in both the public and private sectors.

**SEC. 2.** In pursuit of said objectives the following shall assist the Secretary:

Assistant Secretary, Office of ASEAN Affairs  
Department of Foreign Affairs  
Undersecretary for Planning  
Department of Public Works and Highways  
Commissioner, Bureau of Customs  
Administrator, Maritime Industry Authority  
General Manager, Philippine Ports Authority  
General Manager, Cebu Ports Authority  
Executive Director, Civil Aeronautics Board  
General Manager, Manila International Airport Authority  
General Manager, Mactan-Cebu International Airport Authority

SEC. 3. The Secretary shall prepare recommendations and provide policy advice and support in the area of transit transport relating to international trade for consideration of the appropriate agencies in the Executive Branch.

SEC. 4. The Secretary shall prepare and issue the implementing rules and regulations of this Executive Order within sixty (60) calendar days from the date hereof.

SEC. 5. All Presidential directives, issuances, order, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed and modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. If any provision of this Executive Order and its Implementing Rules and Regulations in held invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and continue to be in force and effect.

SEC. 7. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 28th day of October, the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑAN PALACE  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 248**  
**CREATING THE OFFICE OF THE ANTI-KIDNAPPING PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER**

WHEREAS, in undertaking the government's renewed campaign against kidnapping, an effective and comprehensive approach is necessary through the mobilization of the entire government machinery for a unified effort against terrorist groups and lawless elements involved in kidnapping activities;

WHEREAS, to maximize the capability of law enforcement agencies and optimize the utilization of government resources in its campaign against kidnapping, a Cabinet-level Presidential Adviser must orchestrate and oversee a consolidated anti-kidnapping campaign;

WHEREAS, under Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, the President has the continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the Office of the President.

NOW, THEREFORE I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. Creation** – There is hereby created the Office of the Anti-Kidnapping Presidential Adviser ("Adviser") attached to the Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Commission. Its principal mission shall be to ensure that there is a national campaign against kidnapping wherein all involved law enforcement and counteraction agencies are operating as part of an integrated and coordinated pro-active effort. The Presidential Adviser shall formulate policies, develop strategies, and execute programs of action for a consolidated effort to preempt, prevent and suppress kidnapping, arrest kidnappers and their accessories and cause their speedy prosecution. Secretary Angelo Reyes is hereby appointed Adviser.

**SECTION 2. Oversight Committee.** – There is hereby created an Oversight Committee to ensure the execution by active participation of the involved law enforcement and counteraction agencies of the anti-kidnapping action programs.

The Oversight Committee shall be composed of the following:

|                                               |          |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------|
| Secretary Angelo Reyes                        | Chairman |
| Secretary of Interior and Local Government    | Member   |
| Secretary of National Defense                 | Member   |
| Secretary of Justice                          | Member   |
| Secretary of Transportation and Communication | Member   |

Four (4) representatives from the private sector shall be appointed by the President as members of the Oversight Committee.

**SECTION 3. Functions.** – In pursuance of the government's firm resolve in applying the full force of the law against kidnappers, the Adviser is mandated to discharge the following functions:

- a. Formulate strategies and plans for a coordinated and integrated implementation of measures aimed at preventing, preempting and suppressing kidnapping activities;

- 
- b. Establish a mechanism for an interactive and coordinative mode of operations to ensure operational effectiveness with utmost economy and efficiency;
  - c. Exercise operational supervision over all existing anti-kidnapping units and task forces, jointly with the Secretaries of the Departments to which the units and task forces organically belong. For this purpose, “operational supervision” shall refer to the power to direct, superintend, and oversee the day-to-day investigation of kidnapping cases and activities to prevent kidnapping;
  - d. Select personnel from participating law-enforcement agencies for assignment to task forces and special groups;
  - e. Direct the conduct of anti-kidnapping operations, utilizing all available government instrumentalities, to arrest kidnappers including their coddlers and accessories;
  - f. Cause or direct the immediate investigation and speedy prosecution of cases involving kidnapping and monitor the progress of such cases;
  - g. Grant monetary rewards and incentives to informants who are willing to give vital and material information for building up cases for the prosecution of kidnap suspects;
  - h. Develop public awareness and information campaigns, in partnership with local government units and civic organizations, to encourage public participation in the government’s anti-kidnapping efforts;
  - i. Recommend the issuance of appropriate policies and/or the legislation of laws that would hasten the arrest and prosecution of kidnappers and their accessories;
  - j. Recommend the admission of vital witnesses into the Witness Protection Security Benefit Program administered by the Department of Justice;
  - k. Recommend to the DOJ, in proper cases, the issuance of subpoena ad testificandum and subpoena duces tecum; and
  - l. Perform such other powers and functions as may be necessary for the effective discharge of its mandate in accordance with the law or as may be assigned by the President.

**SECTION 4. Staff Support.** – The Adviser shall receive staff support from the Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Commission. The support staff shall be headed by a Director and be composed of such other personnel who shall be appointed by the Presidential Anti-Kidnapping Adviser.

**SECTION 5. Operations Center and Task Forces.** – The Adviser shall organize subordinate offices and appoint personnel as may be deemed necessary to carry out his mandate. He shall organize staff and line offices such as, but not limited to, the following:

- a. Operations Center shall be responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Office.
- b. Line units such as, but not limited to, task forces working groups and special project groups. For this purpose, the Adviser may be detailed with personnel selected from, but not limited to, the DILG, DOJ, DND, DOTC, NTC, PNP, AFP, NBI, and NPS. Whenever necessitated by special circumstances, and for the duration thereof, the Adviser may direct such government agencies or instrumentalities to provide intelligence, investigation, technical, prosecution and such other support as specified by the Adviser.

**SECTION 6. Assistance and Cooperation.** – In addition to the above-stated government agencies, all other government agencies are hereby directed to actively cooperate with and promptly contribute to the anti-kidnapping campaign to be implemented by the Adviser. For the purpose, the Adviser may

call upon the heads of such government agencies for such assistance as may, from time to time, be necessary.

**SECTION 7. Implementation.** – This Executive Order is deemed self-implementing. There is no need to promulgate additional Rules and Regulations to commence implementation.

**SECTION 8. Funding.** – Funds for the operations of the Commission shall be sourced from such as may be recommended by the Department of Budget and Management.

**SECTION 9. Repeal.** – All orders, rules, regulations and issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 10. Effectivity.** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, October 26, 2003.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 249**

TRANSFERRING THE FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES OF THE LAND ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM TASK FORCE CREATED PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 82, SERIES OF 2002, TO THE SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

**WHEREAS**, the Land Administration and Management Program Task Force (LAMP Task Force) was created pursuant to Executive Order No. 82, Series of 2002;

**WHEREAS**, the LAMP Task Force was mandated to provide leadership, direction and guidance and elicit coordination and cooperation of all sectors for the full and speedy implementation of the Program;

**WHEREAS**, the present Chair of the Task Force is the Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The functions and duties of the LAMP Task Force under Section 2 of Executive Order No. 82, s. 2002, are hereby transferred to the DENR Secretary.

**SEC. 2.** The DENR Secretary may call upon any agency of the Government for such assistance as may be necessary in the performance of her functions.

**SEC. 3.** This Memorandum Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE**, in the City of Manila, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of November, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 250**  
**DESIGNATING THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE (DOF) AS THE ADMINISTRATOR OF**  
**THE ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND**

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Finance is the government agency responsible for the sound and efficient management of the financial resources of the national government, its subdivisions, agencies and instrumentalities;

**WHEREAS**, the Economic Support Fund (hereinafter the Fund) – one of the financial resources of the national government used to finance its priority development programs and projects, including foreign-assisted projects – was previously administered by the Presidential Committee on Flagship Programs and Projects pursuant to E.O. No. 155;

**WHEREAS**, the Presidential Committee on Flagship Programs and Projects was among those agencies abolished by virtue of E.O. No. 72 on rationalization of agencies attached to the Office of the President;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The functions of the Presidential Committee on Flagship Programs and Projects under LOI 1030 as amended by LOI 1434 and E.O. No. 15, relating to the administration of the Fund, as well as its appropriations, funds, records, equipment, facilities, other properties, choses in action and assets and liabilities derived from the defunct Economic Support Fund Secretariat by virtue of E.O. No. 155, are hereby transferred to the Department of Finance.

**SEC. 2** The Office of President through the Office of the Presidential Adviser for Regional Development, which temporarily administered the Fund by virtue of the abolition of the Presidential Committee on Flagship Programs and Projects, is hereby directed to transfer the balance of the Fund to the Department of Finance.

**SEC. 3.** For efficient administration, the Department of Finance is hereby authorized to issue the necessary guidelines for the availment and utilization of the Fund.

**SEC. 4.** All executive orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order, are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 5.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of NOVEMBER, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 251**  
**REQUIRING THE BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE TO FURNISH THE OFFICE OF THE**  
**OMBUDSMAN WITH INCOME TAX RETURNS FILED**

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the State to maintain honesty and integrity in the public service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption;

**WHEREAS**, graft and corruption, in any form and at whatever extent, have deleterious effects on the individual citizens of the nation and on the Philippine society, as a whole;

**WHEREAS**, the negative impact of corruption on the country's socio-economic and political stability as well as its moral values as a people, has been greatly evident;

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to develop an integrated government-wide anti-corruption plan and effort to address the problem of accumulation of ill-gotten wealth;

**WHEREAS**, it cannot be doubted that the use of Statements of Assets, Liabilities and Net Worth in conjunction with income tax returns, especially in the area of graft investigation for the accumulation of wealth manifestly disproportionate to a public official's lawful income, is invaluable;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to strengthen current collaborative efforts between the Office of the Ombudsman and the other government agencies, particularly the Department of Finance and the Bureau of Internal Revenue, to introduce anti-corruption reforms in various agencies to promote transparency and accountability in government;

**WHEREAS**, Section 71 of the National Internal Revenue Code empowers the President of the Philippines to allow the production and inspection of income tax returns filed with the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and the law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Provision of Income Tax Returns.*** – Upon a request duly issued by the Office of the Ombudsman, the Bureau of Internal Revenue shall expeditiously furnish the former with certified copies of the Income Tax Returns (ITRs) of persons, natural and juridical, named in said request and for the years specified in the said request.

**SECTION 2. *Request; Formalities.*** – The request shall be issued by the Ombudsman or his duly authorized representative pursuant to the conduct of the investigation of public officials, whether currently employed by the Government or already separated, for graft and corruption, plunder or accumulation of ill-gotten wealth, in regard to which investigation the request has been made.

The request shall contain a certification that the public official whose ITR is requested is under investigation for graft and corruption, plunder or accumulation of ill-gotten wealth, specifying therein the title and the docket number thereof. In cases where the ITRs of private natural and juridical persons are also requested, other than those of the members of the immediate family of the public officer being investigated and his relatives within the fourth degree of consanguinity or affinity, the request shall contain an explanation as to its relevance or connection to the investigation.

**SECTION 3. *Use and Confidentiality.*** – The ITRs herein furnished by the Bureau of Internal Revenue shall remain confidential and shall be used by the Office of the Ombudsman solely in connection with its investigation for graft and corruption, plunder, accumulation of ill-gotten wealth cases and other graft-related cases. No information from the said ITRs may be released to the public at any time during or after the conclusion of the proceedings, except insofar as the same forms part of any order, resolution or decision rendered in the cases of graft and corruption, plunder, accumulation of ill-gotten wealth, or as evidence in court or any other proceeding within the jurisdiction of the Office of the Ombudsman.

**SECTION 4. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision or section hereof, or any part thereof, is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other subsisting provisions, sections or parts thereof shall remain valid and effective.

**SECTION 5. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect within fifteen (15) days from its publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

**DONE**, in the City of Manila, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of **November**, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). [*Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 252**

**TRANSFERRING THE ASSETS, FUNCTIONS, FUNDS, PERSONNEL AND RECORDS OF THE  
MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT FUND OFFICE TO AN AFFILIATE CORPORATION OF THE  
LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**WHEREAS**, it is the long-term goal of the National Government to develop a viable and sustainable financing system that will enable local government units to have greater access to financing their investment needs at competitive terms;

**WHEREAS**, an autonomous corporate entity imbued with capital structure participated in by local governments, the private sector and other stakeholders will serve the vast financing requirements of local government units;

**WHEREAS**, the Municipal Development Fund, a revolving fund created under Presidential Decree No. 1914 and capitalized and funded from proceeds of foreign loans, assistance or grants made available to local governments for specific purposes, project components and activities set forth in international agreement with foreign governments and international organizations was reorganized under Executive Order No. 41 as an Office under the Department of Finance (DOF) and renamed the Municipal Development Fund Office (MDFO), to finance lower income local governments and social and environmental projects that find great difficulty in getting financing from government and private banks;

**WHEREAS**, the 1991 Local Government Code represented a major step forward in a system of decentralization that created a need for local government units to have greater access to sources of funding for development projects;

**WHEREAS**, the increasing need for local government financing and a more effective management and implementation of the Municipal Development Fund can be met more effectively by a corporate entity serving as one of the principal sources of financing local government projects and programs; and

**WHEREAS**, this corporate entity can be efficiently affiliated to a government financial institution and in the process relieve the National Government from the burden of providing budgetary support and other financial commitments.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order and direct:

**SECTION 1.** The DOF, through the Policy Governing Board of the MDFO, to transfer functions, property and such personnel as may be found qualified, as well as the assets and undrawn portion of all loans from bilateral and multilateral foreign financial institutions that are for relending to local government units to the Municipal Finance Corporation (MFC), an affiliate to be organized by the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP), as soon as MFC is fully organized and its Board of Directors have elected and have qualified.

SEC. 2. Loans to the National Government that were passed on as grants, either in the form of cash or technical assistance to local government units and to implementing agencies as of the transfer date, contemplated in Section 1, shall continue to be paid by the National Government.

SEC. 3. The Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws of the MFC shall provide, among others, that:

- (a) The Board of Directors shall consist of such members as will be stated therein; Provided, the Secretary of Finance is the Chairman, the Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government as Vice-Chairman, the Director-General of the National Economic and Development Authority, the Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management, and the President of the Land Bank of the Philippines and the President of MFC, or their respective duly designated representatives as ex-officio members; and a representative from a local government unit to be appointed by the President of the Philippines;
- (b) The MFC shall issue shares of stock to the Republic of the Philippines corresponding to the net value of the assets and undrawn amount of relending facilities of all loans from bilateral and multilateral foreign financial institutions transferred to it from the Municipal Development Fund Office. The voting power of all shares of stocks subscribed or owned by the Republic of the Philippines shall be vested in the President of the Philippines, or in such ex-officio member of the Board of Directors;
- (c) The MFC, in its transactions with local government units, may provide grants to local government units only in combination with loans but not on a purely grant basis, unless otherwise approved by the Investment Coordination Committee (ICC).

SEC. 4. If any organizational change herein authorized is of such substance or materiality as to prejudice third parties with rights recognized by law and contract, that notice to, or comment of, creditors required to be made or obtained pursuant to any agreement entered into with any of such creditors, such notice or comment requirement shall be complied with prior to the implementation of such organizational change. For this purpose, the Secretary of Finance or such other official as may be conferred by the President of the Philippines with full powers, shall renegotiate the pertinent provisions of such loan and/or grant agreements with foreign lenders/providers, as may be required.

SEC. 5. Any portion or provisions of this Executive Order that may be declared unconstitutional shall not have the effect of nullifying other portions or provisions thereof as long as such remaining portions or provisions can still subsist and be given effect in their entirety.

SEC. 6. All rules and regulations, resolutions, or other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. This Executive Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 1<sup>ST</sup> day of December, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 253**

PROVIDING FOR THE EXPANSION OF AIR SERVICES TO THE DIOSDADO MACAPAGAL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (DMIA) AND SUBIC BAY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (SBIA)

**WHEREAS**, the liberalization of civil aviation should be accelerated in the Philippines and thereby improve its position vis-à-vis the demands of global competition;

**WHEREAS**, under Executive Order No. 62 (series of 1993) prescribing the policies and guidelines to implement Republic Act No. 7227 (otherwise known as the Bases Conversion and Development Act of 1992), the Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA) was mandated to prepare and implement a comprehensive and detailed development program for (a) the former Clark Air Base as a major civil aviation complex for international passenger and/or cargo and (b) the former Subic Naval Base as a special economic and free-port zone ensuring the free flow of goods and capital in accordance with prescribed rules;

**WHEREAS**, by authority of Executive Order No. 80 (series of 1993) establishing the Clark Development Corporation, the Board of Directors of the BCDA has promulgated a policy of expanding air services to the DMIA through its development as a major cargo hub for the Asia-Pacific region;

**WHEREAS**, such development requires the grant or enhancement of certain air traffic rights to and from the DMIA and SBIA;

**NOW, THEREFORE I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The government shall accelerate the development of the DMIA and SBIA as a major cargo hub for the Asia-Pacific region.

**SECTION 2.** Any provision of Executive Order No. 219 (series of 1995), Executive Order No. 32 (series of 2001) and related issuance to the contrary notwithstanding, the Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) shall process all applications for international air cargo transportation service to the DMIA and SBIA in accordance with the following:

- (a) Air access to the DMIA and SBIA is hereby declared as a development route. Hence, the authority to operate such route may be granted unilaterally without any restriction or limitation on capacity, type of aircraft and non-cabotage traffic rights other than those that may be required by considerations relating to airport security and aviation safety. This authority shall be granted without prejudice to any right or privilege of the applicant under Philippine law, including any Air Services Agreement (ASA) or similar air services arrangement.
- (b) The increase in commercial air cargo access to the DMIA and SBIA shall be regarded as an enhancement of trade and investment opportunities for the Philippines.
- (c) The requirement of exporters of products and services from the Philippines for adequate, efficient and reliable air links at competitive rates with their customers and affiliates abroad

shall be considered as a vital component of the national interest in the grant of authority to operate cargo air services to and from the DMIA and SBIA.

- (d) Foreign air carries designated by states with an ASA with the Philippines that already grants such carriers the right to operate air cargo services to and from the DMIA and SBIA may apply for a waiver of any restriction or limitation on capacity, type of aircraft or non-cabotage traffic rights imposed by the relevant ASA on their right to operate such air services. Such waiver shall be granted provided its scope does not extend beyond the commercial and technical requirements for the operation of air services to and from the DMIA and SBIA.

**SECTION 3.** The Air Transportation Office, the Bureau of Immigration, the Bureau of Customs and other government agencies the government including local government units shall provide the necessary support and facilities for the expansion of air cargo services to the DMIA and SBIA.

**SECTION 4.** The CAB shall promulgate the Implementing Rules and Regulations of this Order within sixty (60) days from its date of effectivity.

**SECTION 5.** If any section or part of this Order is declared invalid by a competent court, the remaining sections or parts thereof shall remain valid.

**SECTION 6.** All other issuances inconsistent with the provisions of this Order are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 7.** This order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of **December**, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 254**

**AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF FUNDS FROM THE NET GOVERNMENT SHARE  
FROM SERVICE CONTRACT NO. 38 OVER THE CAMAGO-MALAMPAYA NATURAL GAS  
RESERVOIR AS ASSISTANCE TO THE PROVINCE OF PALAWAN**

**WHEREAS**, the Republic of the Philippines, through the Department of Energy (DOE), entered into Service Contract No. 38 (SC 38) with Shell Philippines Exploration B.V. and Occidental Philippines, Inc. on 11 December 1990 for the exclusive conduct of petroleum operations in the area referred to as Camago-Malampaya located off the shores of northwest Palawan;

**WHEREAS**, given the strategic importance of SC 38 in providing secure, reliable and environmentally-friendly indigenous energy and the responsibilities that have been undertaken by the Province of Palawan in assisting the National Government in securing SC 38 Project Exclusion Zone, it is deemed appropriate to extend financial assistance to the Province of Palawan out of the net government revenues from SC 38 for its socio-economic and environmental development projects;

**WHEREAS**, under the Local Government Code, the President may, upon the request of the local government unit concerned, direct the appropriate national agency to provide financial, technical or other forms assistance to the local government unit at no extra cost to the local government unit concerned.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Release of Funds.*** – Subject to applicable laws and availability of funds, the DOE shall identify and submit the list of priority development projects in the total amount of **THREE HUNDRED MILLION PESOS (₱300,000,000.00)** to the Department of Budget and Management for release of funds direct to the DOE. Said amount shall be sourced from the net government share of the revenues from SC 38 for fiscal year 2002.

**SECTION 2. *Allocation.*** – The foregoing amount shall be allocated for priority development projects for the Province of Palawan to be divided into three (3) equal portions among the following:

- a. The implementation of the roads and school buildings program and barangay projects for the 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District;
- b. The implementation of the roads and school buildings program and barangay projects for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District; and
- c. Approved priority development projects of the Provincial Government of Palawan.

**SECTION 3. *Reservation.*** – The amount released pursuant to this Executive Order is made for the mutual benefit of the National Government and the Province of Palawan and its constituents, and shall be without prejudice to any on-going discussions or legal disputes regarding the National Government's territorial jurisdiction over the areas covered by SC 38.

SECTION 4. *Effectivity.* This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of December, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 254-A**

**AUTHORIZING THE FURTHER RELEASE OF FUNDS FROM THE NET GOVERNMENT SHARE FROM SERVICE CONTRACT NO. 38 OVER THE CAMAGO-MALAMPAYA NATURAL GAS RESERVOIR AS ASSISTANCE TO THE PROVINCE OF PALAWAN**

**WHEREAS**, the Republic of the Philippines, through the Department of Energy (DOE), entered into Service Contract No. 38 (SC 38) with Shell Philippines B.V. and Occidental Philippines, Inc. on 11 December 1990 for the exclusive conduct of petroleum operations in the area referred to as Camago-Malampaya located off the shores of northwest Palawan;

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 254 dated 08 December 2003 [EO 254] recognizes the strategic importance of SC 38 in providing secure, reliable and environmentally-friendly indigenous energy and the responsibilities that have been undertaken by the Province of Palawan in assisting the National Government in securing the SC 38 Project Exclusion Zone and, therefore, it is deemed appropriate for the Province of Palawan to benefit from the net government revenues from SC 38 for its socio-economic and environmental development projects;

**WHEREAS**, under the Local Government Code, the President may, upon the request of the local government unit concerned, direct the appropriate national agency to provide financial, technical or other forms of assistance to the local government unit, at no extra cost to the local government unit concerned;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Release of Funds.*** – Subject to applicable laws and availability of funds, the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) shall release, through the DOE, the additional funds necessary to implement the projects mentioned in Section 2 hereof for the Province of Palawan, which have been determined by the DOE in consultation with the Provincial Government of Palawan, in the amount of Three Hundred Million Pesos (P300,000,000.00), sourced from the net government share of the revenues from SC 38 for fiscal year 2002 and 2003.

**SECTION 2. *Allocation.*** – The foregoing amount shall be allocated for priority development projects for the Province of Palawan as approved by its Sangguniang Panlalawigan, as follows:

- a. Twenty Million Pesos (P20,000,000.00) for purchase of land for relocation of the landless of Puerto Princesa City;
- b. Five Million Pesos (P5,000,000.00) for the Livelihood Program for Market Vendors, Puerto Princesa City;
- c. Twenty Million Pesos (P20,000,000.00) for the widening and drainage improvement of Rizal Avenue, Puerto Princesa City;
- d. Thirty Million Pesos (P30,000,000.00) for the concreting of the Iwahig-Sta. Lucia section of the Palawan South Road in the City of Puerto Princesa;
- e. Eleven Million Nine Hundred Thousand Pesos (P11,900,000.00) for the construction of the Barangay Convergence Center in the City of Puerto Princesa;



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- f. Twenty Million Pesos (P20,000,000.00) for the PGMA Scholarship Program for the tuition fees for four (4) years of one thousand (1,000) students of petroleum engineering, agriculture and fisheries, environmental protection and management, tourism and similar courses offered by the State Universities located in the Province of Palawan, as follows:
- i. Seven Hundred (700) students from the Palawan State University; and
  - ii. Three Hundred (300) students from the Western Philippines University;
  - g. Ten Million Pesos (P10,000,000.00) for the construction of additional facilities for the *Ospital ng Palawan* Provincial Hospital;
  - h. Ten Million Pesos (P10,000,000.00) for the construction of the Palawan State University building;
  - i. Forty Million Pesos (P40,000,000.00) for the acquisition of land and development of the El Nido Municipal Airport;
  - j. Fifteen Million Pesos (P15,000,000.00) for Barangay Electrification Projects;
  - k. Six Million Pesos (P6,000,000.00) for the construction of Municipal Buildings in the Municipalities of Agutaya and Cagayancillo, in the amount of Three Million Pesos (P3,000,000.00) each;
  - l. Forty Three Million One Hundred Thousand Pesos (P43,100,000.00) for Barangay Livelihood Programs, in the amount of One Hundred Thousand Pesos (P100,000.00) for each of the four hundred thirty-one (431) barangays of the Province of Palawan; and
  - m. Sixty Nine Million Pesos (P69,000,000.00) for Municipal Livelihood Programs in the amount of Three Million Pesos (P3,000,000.00) for each of the twenty-three (23) municipalities of the Province of Palawan.

**SECTION 3. *Reservation.*** – The release of the amount under this Executive Order is made for the mutual benefit of the National Government and the Province of Palawan and its constituents, and shall be without prejudice to any on-going discussions or legal disputes regarding the National Government's territorial jurisdiction over the areas covered by SC 38.

**Section 4. *Implementing Guidelines, Rules and Regulations.*** The Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Finance and the Secretary of Budget and Management shall jointly promulgate the necessary guidelines, rules and regulations to ensure the orderly implementation of this Executive Order.

**SECTION 5. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 3rd day of March, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

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MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 255**

CREATING THE OFFICE OF A PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER UNDER THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FELICIANO COMMISSION

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the State to maintain honesty and integrity in the public service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption.

**WHEREAS**, in line with government's program of good governance, there is a need to enhance professionalism, promote honesty and integrity in the defense and military service, instill ethical standards and inculcate a strong sense of public accountability among civilian and military personnel in the pursuit of a common commitment against graft and corruption.

**WHEREAS**, in pursuit of social, economic and political reforms, there is a need for vigorous implementation of various policies, reforms, programs and projects aimed at addressing the root causes of military unrest and *coup d'etat* requiring administrative action and even new legislation.

**WHEREAS**, Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of Executive Order No. 292 dated 25 July 1987, otherwise known as the Administrative Code of 1987, provides continuing authority to the President to reorganize the administrative structure of the Office of the President.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Creation and Mandate.*** There is hereby created an Office of a Presidential Adviser under the Office of the President to implement the recommendations of the Feliciano Commission.

**SECTION 2. *Duties and Functions.*** The Presidential Adviser shall have the following duties and functions:

- a) Ensure the institutionalization and monitoring of reform measures in the organizations of the Department of National Defense (DND) and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).
- b) Conduct a comprehensive study on the areas of concern as recommended by the Commission and take appropriate actions in the course of implementing the reform measures at the DND and AFP.
- c) Establish a grievance mechanism for AFP personnel to conduct, investigate, verify, evaluate, recommend and monitor the courses of action taken, subject to existing laws, rules and regulations.
- d) Pursue a continuous organizational development process towards the eradication of graft and corruption in the military establishment.
- e) Exercise such duties and functions as the President deems necessary to implement the recommendations contained in the Report of the Feliciano Commission dated 17 October 2003.

**SECTION 3. *Assistance and Cooperation.*** All departments, agencies of the government, including government-owned or controlled corporations are hereby directed to actively cooperate with and assist in the efficient implementation of this Executive Order. For this purpose, the Presidential

Adviser may call upon heads of such government agencies for such assistance as may, from time to time, be necessary.

**SECTION 4. *Funding.*** Funds for the initial operating expenses of the Office of the Presidential Adviser to implement the recommendations of the Feliciano Commission shall be sourced from the Contingent Fund. Thereafter, funding requirements shall be included in the budget of the Office of the President.

**SECTION 5. *Implementation.*** This Office shall promulgate the necessary implementing rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Executive Order.

**SECTION 6. *Repeal.*** All orders, rules, regulations and issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 7. *Effectivity.*** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Done in the City of Manila, this 5th day of **December**, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). [*Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 256**

**DECLARATION ON THE EFFECT OF SPECIAL PATENT NO. 3596 AND ESTABLISHING A  
MAKATI-TAGUIG BOUNDARY COMMITTEE**

**WHEREAS**, there exists a territorial dispute between the Municipality of Taguig and the City of Makati over certain areas in the former Fort Bonifacio docketed as Civil Case No. 63896 and pending before the Regional Trial Court of Pasig, Branch 153 since 1993;

**WHEREAS**, the territorial dispute relates to the correct delineation of the common territorial boundary of the Municipality of Taguig and City of Makati;

**WHEREAS**, Sections 2 and 55 of Republic Act No. 7854 (Charter of the City of Makati), as supported by the Supreme Court in “*Mariano vs. Comelec*” (242 SCRA 211), expressly provide that it is the courts that shall resolve the territorial disputes between City of Makati and any adjoining government unit;

**WHEREAS**, when Special Patent No. 3596 dated 7 February 1995 was issued to convey unto Fort Bonifacio Development Corporation the tracts of land subject thereof, no reference to the City of Makati was made while a reference to the Municipality of Taguig was expressly made therein;

**WHEREAS**, pending final resolution in the courts of the territorial dispute between the Municipality of Taguig and the City of Makati, there is a question as to the correct description of the location of the subject tracts of land and said Special Patent No. 3596 was not meant to intrude into or affect any judicial processes relating thereto;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** Pursuant to the provisions of law and pending the final resolution of the territorial dispute between Taguig and Makati, the tracts of land subject of said territorial dispute shall be deemed situated in the *Municipality of Taguig or City of Makati*, until a final determination is issued in Civil Case No. 63896 pending before the Regional Trial Court of Pasig City, Branch 153 or any appeals or other related cases therefrom.

**SECTION 2.** The Department of Interior and Local Government is directed to form a special Makati-Taguig Boundary Committee to conduct non-binding discussions to explore the possibility of arriving at a constructive and early resolution of the boundary dispute and to provide for a forum for dialogue between the two local government units. Said Committee shall be composed of the following:

|           |                                                                                                                 |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chairman: | Secretary of Interior and Local Government                                                                      |
| Members:  | One (1) representative from the Office of the Mayor of the City of Makati                                       |
|           | One (1) representative from the Office of the Mayor of the Municipality of Taguig                               |
|           | One (1) representative from the Office of the Congressional Representative of the 1st District, City of Makati  |
|           | One (1) representative from the Office of the Congressional Representative of the Lone District, Taguig-Pateros |

One (1) representative from the Office of the Solicitor General  
One (1) neutral legal expert to be appointed by the President.

**SECTION 3.** This Executive Order shall not be construed as creating or granting any new rights or privileges, and/or affecting or altering the *status quo* of the tracts of land in dispute, or as interfering with the judicial process. Upon final resolution of the territorial dispute in the above mentioned case or other related cases as may be decided by the Judicial Department, the statement of the location of said properties in the Special Patent and in all plans and other related documents and issuances shall be amended, reconciled and made consistent with the final judicial determination.

**SECTION 4.** All orders, issuances, rules and regulation, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified.

**SECTION 5.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE**, in the City of Manila this **8th** day of **December**, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). [*Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 257**  
**CREATING A REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (RDC) UNDER**  
**THE NEDA BOARD**

**WHEREAS**, regional development is a means to promote national growth and countryside development;

**WHEREAS**, it is a priority of the government to continue addressing disparities in regional development and promote equitable allocation of resources among regions;

**WHEREAS**, to effectively address the critical regional and local development needs, there is a need for a coordinated effort at the national level that shall strengthen the linkages between national and regional/local planning, programming, budgeting and implementation;

**WHEREAS**, it is imperative that spatial implications of policies are adequately considered in national development policy formulation;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need for an inter-agency body at the national level that shall coordinate and integrate regional developments efforts of the government to ensure harmony and effective implementation at the regional and local levels;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Executive Order No. 230, the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) is primarily responsible for the formulation of continuing, coordinated and fully integrated social and economic policies, plans and programs both at the national and regional levels.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** *Creation of a NEDA Board-Regional Development Committee (NB-RDC).* A Regional Development Committee is hereby constituted under the NEDA Board.

**SECTION 2.** *Composition.* The NB-RDC shall be composed of the following:

|           |                                                                           |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chairman: | NEDA Director-General                                                     |
| Members:  | Secretary of Budget and Management                                        |
|           | Secretary of Interior and Local Government                                |
|           | Three (3) RDC Chairs one each representing Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao    |
|           | Four (4) regional development experts from the private sector and academe |

**SECTION 3.** *Functions of the NB-RDC.* The NB-RDC shall:

- a. formulate and monitor the implementation of policies that reduce regional growth disparities, promote equitable allocation of resources among regions;
- b. serve as clearinghouse for key regional development policy proposals which impact on two or more regions;

- c. formulate and monitor the implementation of the framework for regional development of the Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan;
- d. direct the formulation and review guidelines for the regional allocation of agency budgetary resources; and
- e. periodically review the viability of the regional configuration of the country and recommend to the President the re-delineation of regions, as may be necessary.

**SECTION 4.** *Creation of NB-RDC Technical Board.* A Technical Board shall be created to provide technical support to the NB-RDC.

**SECTION 5.** *Composition of the Technical Board.* The Technical Board shall be composed of the following:

|           |                                                                             |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chairman: | NEDA Deputy Director-General for Regional Development                       |
| Members:  | Three (3) NEDA Regional Directors one each from Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao |
|           | Representatives of the member agencies of the NB-RDC                        |
|           | Four (4) regional development experts from the private sector and academe   |

**SECTION 6.** *Funding.* Funds needed to carry out the provisions of this Executive Order for the first calendar year shall be drawn from the NEDA budget. Fund requirements for the succeeding years shall be provided in the General Appropriations Act.

**SECTION 7.** *Implementing Authority of the NEDA Director-General.* The NEDA Director-General shall issue such implementing rules, regulations, and other issuances as may be necessary to ensure the efficient and effective implementation of the provisions of this Executive Order.

**SECTION 8.** *Repeal.* All previous issuances inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 9.** *Effectivity.* This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 258**  
**RECONSTITUTING THE NATIONAL TASK FORCE DIWALWAL**

**WHEREAS**, the Office of the President had issued Executive Order No. 217 dated June 17, 2003 creating the National Task Force Diwalwal to address the urgent need to formulate specifically focused policies and coordinate the implementation of measures thereof by all concerned government agencies with respect to the vital concerns of the government and to rationalize all mining activities in the area;

**WHEREAS**, recent developments in the course of implementing Executive Order No. 217 have necessitated the reconstitution of the National Task Force Diwalwal to streamline its functioning and better address issues affecting stakeholders as represented by concerned government agencies not included in the original composition of the Task Force.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION. 1.** *Reconstitution of National Task Force (NTF) Diwalwal.* The National Task Force Diwalwal is hereby reconstituted to be composed of the following:

|                                                               |                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources                | - Head           |
| Secretary of National Defense                                 | - Assistant Head |
| Secretary of Social Welfare and Development                   | - Assistant Head |
| Secretary of Justice                                          | - Member         |
| Secretary of the Interior and Local Government                | - Member         |
| Director-General, National Economic and Development Authority | - Member         |
| Press Secretary                                               | - Member         |
| Solicitor General                                             | - Member         |
| Commissioner, Bureau of Internal Revenue                      | - Member         |
| Chairman, National Commission on Indigenous Peoples           | - Member         |
| Provincial Governor, Compostela Valley                        | - Member         |
| Municipal Mayor, Monkayo, Compostela Valley                   | - Member         |

**SEC. 2.** *Effectivity.* This Order shall take effect immediately.



DONE in the City of Manila, this 13th day of December, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 259**  
**CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE REVENUE INTEGRITY PROTECTION**  
**SERVICE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**WHEREAS**, reports of graft and corruption in the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Bureau of Customs have been identified as the perennial and major causes of revenue shortfalls, thereby compromising government's capacity to efficiently generate revenues for delivery of basic services and to fund development objectives;

**WHEREAS**, an unrelenting, systematic, and focused campaign to prevent graft and corruption in the revenue collecting agencies of government and to protect the integrity of revenues is imperative and is a top priority of the government;

**WHEREAS**, being mandated by law to ensure the efficient generation and management of revenues and financial resources of government, the Secretary of Finance must take the lead in exercising powers of discipline over all officers and employees engaged in revenue collection;

**WHEREAS**, the Administrative Code of 1987 empowers the President with the continuing authority to reorganize the Executive Department, allocate powers, functions and responsibilities, align resources and provide clear direction to specific government agencies and units;

**WHEREAS**, the creation of an anti-graft investigative body in the Department of Finance to be known as the Revenue Integrity Protection Service is an important step to battle corruption in said agency;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Organization.*** There is hereby created in the Department of Finance the Revenue Integrity Protection Service ("the Service"), which shall have the task to detect, investigate and prevent corruption in the revenue generating agencies of government under the Department of Finance.

The Service shall be under the direct supervision and control of the Secretary of Finance. The Secretary of Finance may designate a subordinate official with the rank of at least an Undersecretary to oversee the operations of the Service.

**SEC. 2. *Jurisdiction.*** In the exercise of its powers and functions, the Service shall have jurisdiction over all officials and employees of the Department of Finance, the Bureau of Internal Revenue, the Bureau of Customs and all other agencies attached to the Department.

**SEC. 3. *Powers and Functions.*** The Service shall have the following powers and functions.

- a) To investigate, upon complaint or *motu proprio*, allegations of corrupt practices of officials and employees of the DOF, the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Bureau of Customs, and all other agencies under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Finance.
- b) To gather evidence and file the appropriate criminal, civil or administrative complaints against government officials and employees within its jurisdiction before the appropriate court of law,

- administrative body, or agency of competent jurisdiction, and to assist the prosecuting agency or officer towards the successful prosecution of such cases.
- c) To investigate, upon complaint or *motu proprio*, unusual or unjustified accumulation of wealth disproportionate to the earning capacity of government officials and employees under its jurisdiction and to initiate, and assist in, the prosecution of such cases for recovery or forfeiture of ill-gotten wealth.
  - d) To review current systems, processes and procedures in the DOF, the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Bureau of Customs and other attached agencies, and to recommend reform measures to enhance integrity, reduce opportunities for corruption and ensure efficient and transparent delivery of public services.
  - e) The Secretary of Finance or the Undersecretary overseeing the Service, shall have the power to require the attendance of witnesses or the production of books, papers, documents and other pertinent data, including income tax returns, in accordance with the provisions of Section 71 of R.A. 8428 (the National Internal Revenue Code).
  - f) To perform any and all acts as may be necessary and lawful to successfully implement this Order.

**SEC. 4. *Personnel and Staffing Complement.*** The Service shall be composed of its organic personnel, as approved by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), augmented and reinforced by DOF personnel as well those detailed or seconded from other government agencies, whether attached to the DOF or not. The Service shall have the power to deputize any official or employee of government, to assist it in its work and provide support in the performance of its duties and functions as provided herein. In addition, the Service may hire or engage technical personnel, including, but not limited to, accountants, auditors, banking and financial consultants, to provide technical support to any investigation.

**SEC. 5. *Rules and Regulations.*** The Secretary of Finance is hereby authorized to promulgate such rules and regulations and prescribe procedures and processes to enable the Service to effectively exercise its powers and discharge its duties and functions herein provided, to guide the general public and to enhance transparency and accountability in government.

**SEC. 6. *Training and Skills Enhancement.*** With the objective of developing a professional and highly skilled complement of investigators and agents, the Service shall conduct regular training and skills development programs for its personnel in critical areas of corruption detection and investigation, corruption-prevention, evidence gathering, management and preservation and other areas covered by its operations.

**SEC. 7. *Performance Audit System.*** The Service shall develop a performance audit system that will monitor and measure actual personnel performance as a basis for rewards and incentives for good performance and punishment for nonfeasance or malfeasance, subject to existing laws, rules and regulations. For this purpose, the Secretary of Finance is hereby directed to develop appropriate performance standards for personnel of the Service and personnel evaluation system that will advance accountability in the service. The Secretary of Finance is further directed to formulate a Code of Ethics for personnel of the Service and an effective enforcement mechanism to enforce its provisions and enhance integrity in the Service.

**SEC. 8. *Operating Guidelines.*** The Service shall adopt such operating guidelines as may be necessary to implement this Executive Order, subject to the approval of the Secretary of Finance.

**SEC. 9. *Funding.*** The Service shall be provided with an initial annual allocation of TEN MILLION PESOS (P10,000,000.00) to be drawn from the President's Contingency Fund and/or from

all available savings of DOF-attached agencies, bureaus and GOCCs. Appropriations for the succeeding years shall be incorporated in the budget proposal for the Department of Finance. To successfully fulfill the mandate of the Service, the Secretary of Finance is authorized to receive, on behalf of the Service, donations from private persons or entities in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations.

**SEC. 10. *Budgetary Support.*** The DBM is hereby directed to provide the funds necessary for the transfer, detail secondment or hiring of personnel, including requests for the hiring of personnel on contractual or consultancy basis, in accordance with budgeting laws, rules and regulations.

**SEC. 11. *Full Implementation of this Order.*** The Secretary of Finance may adopt such rules and regulations, issue such further orders, and organize or reorganize the personnel of the Service, to successfully implement this Order.

**SEC. 12. *Effectivity.*** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). [*Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 260**

MODIFYING THE RATES OF DUTY ON CERTAIN IMPORTED ARTICLES AS PROVIDED UNDER THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978, AS AMENDED, IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THE PREFERENTIAL TARIFF RATES ON CERTAIN PRODUCTS UNDER THE ASEAN INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION (AICO) SCHEME, IN FAVOR OF HONDA CARS PHILIPPINES, INC. (HCPI)-(COE NOS. HONDA/2003/27 AND HONDA/2003/29)

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines is a Contracting Party to the Basic Agreement on the ASEAN Industrial Cooperation Scheme (AICO) signed in Singapore on 27 April 1996;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines is a participating country in the approved AICO Arrangements of Honda Cars Philippines, Inc. (HCPI) along with Thailand and Malaysia;

**WHEREAS**, under the Honda AICO Arrangement, the Philippines (Honda Cars Philippines, Inc.) will import from Thailand (Honda Automobile (Thailand) Co. Ltd.) and Malaysia (Honda Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.) certain original equipment manufacture (OEM) automotive parts/components for Honda Civic passenger cars (HS 8703.90 10). In exchange, Thailand and Malaysia will import from the Philippines complementary parts/components for the (OEM) of Honda Civic, Honda City, Honda Accord and CR-V;

**WHEREAS**, AICO Certificate of Eligibility Nos. Honda/2003/27 and Honda/2003/29 were issued on 11 and 29 August 2003, respectively, in favor of the participating companies in the Honda AICO Arrangement;

**WHEREAS**, in consonance with Articles 5 and 7 of the Basic Agreement of the AICO Scheme, participating companies in the approved Honda, AICO Arrangements shall qualify for 0 – 5% preferential tariff rates to be extended by Thailand, Malaysia and the Philippines as participating countries.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, pursuant to the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The articles specifically listed in **Annex “A”** hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be accorded the AICO rate of 3% on parts/components of Honda Civic (HS 8703.90 10) as specified in Column 6 thereof.

**SECTION 2.** The AICO rate provided in **Annex “A”** shall be accorded to the AICO entity in Thailand (Honda Automobile (Thailand) Co. Ltd.) and Malaysia (Honda Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.) upon the effectivity of this Executive Order.

**SECTION 3.** In the event that any subsequent changes are made in the basic (MFN) Philippine rate of duty on any of the articles listed in **Annex “A”** to a rate lower than the AICO rate prescribed in Column 6 of **Annex “A”** such articles shall automatically be accorded the corresponding reduced rate of duty.

**SECTION 4.** Upon the effectivity of this Executive Order, the articles specifically listed in the aforesaid **Annex “A”** which are entered or withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines for

consumption shall pay the applicable AICO preferential tariff rates specified under Section 1 hereof, subject to compliance with the Rules of Origin for the Common Effective Preferential Tariff (CEPT).

**SECTION 5.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Done in the City of Manila, this 30<sup>th</sup> day of December, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **AVELINO J. CRUZ, JR.**

Acting Executive Secretary

*Reference:* Annex “A”

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 261**

AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NOS. 74 AND 162, SERIES OF 1999 AND 2003, RESPECTIVELY, ENTITLED “MODIFYING THE RATES OF DUTY ON CERTAIN IMPORTED ARTICLES AS PROVIDED UNDER THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978, AS AMENDED, IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THE PREFERENTIAL TARIFF RATES ON CERTAIN PRODUCTS UNDER THE ASEAN INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION (AICO) SCHEME, IN FAVOR OF PHILIPPINES AUTO COMPONENT, INC. (PAC)-(COE NOS. DENSO/1998/1(A) AND DENSO/2002/6(A).

**WHEREAS**, AICO Certificate of Eligibility Nos. Denso/1998/1 and Denso/2002/6 were issued on 04 November 1998 and 12 November 2002, respectively, to Denso (Thailand) Co., Ltd. and Philippines Auto Component, Inc. as participating companies in the Denso AICO Arrangement which shall qualify for 0-5% preferential tariff rates, local content accreditation where applicable, and other privileges to be extended by Thailand and the Philippines;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the said Certificate of Eligibility, Executive Order Nos. 74 and 162 dated 15 January 1999 and 10 January 2003, respectively, were issued implementing the preferential tariff rates on certain products under the AICO Arrangement of Philippines Auto Component, Inc. and Denso (Thailand) Co., Ltd. on certain original equipment manufacture (OEM) automotive parts/components;

**WHEREAS**, on 08 September 2003, AICO Certificate of Eligibility Nos. Denso/1998/1(A) and Denso/2002/6(A) were re-issued to Denso International (Thailand) Co. Ltd., Denso (Thailand) Co., Ltd. and Philippines Auto Component, Inc., nullifying AICO Certificate of Eligibility Nos. Denso/1998/1 and Denso/2002/6 issued to Philippines Auto Component, Inc., and Denso (Thailand) Co., Ltd.;

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to amend said Executive Order Nos. 74 and 162 to effect the participation of an additional company, Denso International (Thailand) Co., Ltd., in the AICO Scheme between Thailand and the Philippines.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, pursuant to the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The fifth **WHEREAS** clause of Executive Order No. 74 dated 15 January 1999 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“**WHEREAS**, under the Denso AICO Arrangement, the Philippines (Philippines Auto Component, Inc.) will import from Thailand (Denso International (Thailand) Co., Ltd. and Denso (Thailand) Co., Ltd.) certain original equipment manufacture (OEM) automotive parts/components.”

**SECTION 2.** Section 6 of Executive Order No. 74 dated 15 January 1999 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“The AICO rates provided in Annex “A” shall be accorded to the AICO entities in Thailand (Denso International (Thailand) Co., Ltd., and Denso (Thailand) Co., Ltd.) upon the effectivity of this Executive Order.”

**SECTION 3.** The third **WHEREAS** clause of Executive Order No. 162 dated 10 January 2003 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“**WHEREAS**, under the Denso AICO Arrangement, the Philippines (Philippines Auto Component, Inc.) will import from Thailand (Denso International (Thailand) Co., Ltd. and Denso (Thailand) Co., Ltd.) certain original equipment manufacture (OEM) automotive parts/components.”

**SECTION 4.** Section 2 of Executive Order No. 162 dated 10 January 2003 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“The AICO rates provided in Annex “A” shall be accorded to the AICO entities in Thailand (Denso International (Thailand) Co., Ltd., and Denso (Thailand) Co., Ltd.) upon the effectivity of this Executive Order”.

**SECTION 5.** Annex “C” of Executive Order No. 74 dated 15 January 1999 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Annex “C”

**ARTICLES GRANTED PREFERENTIAL TARIFF UNDER THE APPROVED  
DENSO (PAC) AICO SCHEME**

| HS CODE    | DESCRIPTION                                       | SOURCE COUNTRY/(AICO COMPANY)                                                    | APPLICABLE AICO PREFERENTIAL TARIFF (%) |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| (1)        | (2)                                               | (3)                                                                              | (4)                                     |
| 9029.20 90 | Motorcycle meters                                 | Thailand (Denso International (Thailand) Co. Ltd. and Denso (Thailand) Co. Ltd.) | 3                                       |
| 9405.40 90 | Lighting fittings (bulbs) for instrument clusters | Thailand (Denso International (Thailand) Co. Ltd. and Denso (Thailand) Co. Ltd.) | 5                                       |

**SECTION 6.** Annex “A” of Executive Order No. 162 dated 10 January 2003 is hereby amended to read as follows:



## Annex "A"

| HS Code    | Applied Final Product | Product Description                                          | Source Country (AICO Company)                                                    | Applicable AICO Preferential Tariff (%) |
|------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| (1)        | (2)                   | (3)                                                          | (4)                                                                              | (5)                                     |
| 8414.90 00 | Fans                  | Fan assembly and shroud assembly                             | Thailand (Denso International (Thailand) Co. Ltd. and Denso (Thailand) Co. Ltd.) | 3                                       |
| 8419.89 10 | Evaporators           | Evaporators for air-conditioning machines for motor vehicles | Thailand (Denso International (Thailand) Co. Ltd. and Denso (Thailand) Co. Ltd.) | 3                                       |
| 8708.91 10 | Aluminum radiators    | Upper/lower tanks; tanks subassembly, lower                  | Thailand (Denso International (Thailand) Co. Ltd. and Denso (Thailand) Co. Ltd.) | 3                                       |
| 8708.91 20 | Aluminum radiators    | Core subassembly                                             | Thailand (Denso International (Thailand) Co. Ltd. and Denso (Thailand) Co. Ltd.) | 3                                       |

SECTION 7. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Done in the City of Manila, this 30<sup>th</sup> day of December, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **AVELINO J. CRUZ, JR.**  
Acting Executive Secretary

*Reference:* Annex A

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 262**  
**MODIFYING THE NOMENCLATURE AND THE RATES OF IMPORT DUTY ON MOTOR**  
**VEHICLES UNDER SECTION 104 OF THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978**  
**(PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1464, AS AMENDED)**

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order 156 (Comprehensive Industrial Policy and Directions for the Motor Vehicle Development Program), issued on 12 December 2002, provides for the restructuring of the Most Favored Nation (MFN) tariff rates for motor vehicles and their raw materials, parts and components at such rates that will encourage the development of the Philippine motor vehicle industry;

**WHEREAS**, Section 401 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978 (Presidential Decree No. 1464), as amended, empowers the President of the Republic of the Philippines to increase, reduce, or remove existing rates of import duty, as well as to modify the tariff nomenclature;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The articles specifically listed in Annex “A” hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be subject to the rates of import duty for the periods in accordance with the schedule indicated opposite each article.

**SECTION 2.** Upon the effectivity of this Executive Order, the articles specifically listed in the aforesaid “Annex” which are entered and withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines for consumption shall be levied the rates of duty herein prescribed.

**SECTION 3.** All Presidential issuances, administrative rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 4.** The Department of Trade and Industry, in consultation with the National Economic and Development Authority and the Department of Finance, shall issue appropriate guidelines to implement the MFN tariff rates prescribed herein.

**SECTION 5.** This Executive Order shall take effect thirty (30) days following its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Done in the City of Manila, this day of December 30, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) AVELINO J. CRUZ, JR.  
Acting Executive Secretary

*Reference:* “Annex A”

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 263**

MODIFYING THE RATES OF DUTY ON CERTAIN IMPORTED ARTICLES AS PROVIDED FOR UNDER THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978, AS AMENDED, IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THE TRANSFER OF THE LAST TRANCHÉ OF PRODUCTS FROM THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT SENSITIVE LIST (SL) TO THE COMMON EFFECTIVE PREFERENTIAL TARIFF INCLUSION LIST (CEPT-IL) AND THE MODIFICATION OF THE CEPT RATE ON OIL CAKE AND OTHER SOLID RESIDUES OF MAIZE (CORN) GERM, SODIUM TRIPOLYPHOSPHATES AND CASSAVA STARCH

**WHEREAS**, the Governments of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, signed the Protocol on the Special Arrangement for Sensitive and Highly Sensitive Products on 30 September 1999;

**WHEREAS**, Member States (i.e., Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand) phased-in sensitive products to the CEPT Scheme beginning on 01 January 2001 with flexibility but not later than 01 January 2003 and shall complete the phasing-in by 01 January 2010;

**WHEREAS**, Article III of the Protocol provides that the beginning rate shall be the applied rate and the ending tariff rates shall be 0-5%;

**WHEREAS**, on 5 November 2001, the NEDA Board approved the 2001 - 2010 Philippine CEPT Schedule for sensitive agricultural products;

**WHEREAS**, on 9 December 2003, the NEDA Board confirmed the phasing-in of 44 sensitive agricultural products to the CEPT-IL in 2003 and approved the modification of the CEPT rate on oil cake and other residues of maize (corn) germ, sodium tripolyphosphates and cassava starch, respectively;

**WHEREAS**, Section 402 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978 (Presidential Decree No. 1464), as amended, empowers the President, upon the recommendation of the National Economic and Development Authority, to increase, reduce or remove existing protective rates of import duty, as well as to modify the form of duty.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The articles specifically listed in Annex "A" hereof (Sensitive Agricultural Products Granted Concession under the CEPT for the AFTA), as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be subject to the ASEAN CEPT rate in accordance with the year 2003-2005 schedule indicated in Columns 4-6 of Annex "A". The ASEAN CEPT rates so indicated shall be accorded to imports coming from ASEAN Member States applying CEPT concession to the same product pursuant to Article 4 of the CEPT Agreement and its Interpretative Notes.

**SECTION 2.** The articles specifically listed in Annex “B” hereof (Articles Granted Concessions under the CEPT for the AFTA), as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be subject to the ASEAN CEPT rate indicated in Column 4 of Annex “B”. The ASEAN CEPT rates so indicated shall be accorded to imports coming from ASEAN Member States applying CEPT concession to the same product pursuant to Article 4 of the CEPT Agreement and its Interpretative Notes.

**SECTION 3.** In the event that any subsequent changes are made in the basic (Most Favored Nation) Philippine rate of duty on any of the articles listed in Annexes “A” and “B” to a rate lower than the rate prescribed in Columns 4-6 of Annex “A” and Column 4 of Annex “B”, such articles shall automatically be accorded the corresponding reduced duty.

**SECTION 4.** From the date of effectivity of this Order, all articles listed in Annexes “A” and “B” entered or withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines for consumption shall be imposed the rates of duty therein prescribed subject to qualification under the Rules of Origin as provided for in the Agreement on the CEPT Scheme for the AFTA signed on 28 January 1992.

**SECTION 5.** All Presidential issuances, administrative rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are contrary or inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 6.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately following its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Done in the City of Manila, this day of December 30, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **AVELINO J. CRUZ, JR.**

Acting Executive Secretary

*References:* Annexes A and B

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 264**  
**MODIFYING THE NOMENCLATURE AND THE RATES OF IMPORT DUTY ON VARIOUS**  
**PRODUCTS UNDER SECTION 104 OF THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978**  
**(PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1464, AS AMENDED)**

**WHEREAS**, developments in the domestic and global economic environments warrant the modification in the rates of duty on certain products to provide temporary relief to local producers and manufacturers in the agriculture and manufacturing section and enable them to further enhance their competitiveness;

**WHEREAS**, Section 401 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978 (Presidential Decree No. 1464), as amended, empowers the President of the Republic of the Philippines to increase, reduce, or remove existing rates of import duty, as well as to modify the tariff nomenclature;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The articles specifically listed in Annex “A” hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be subject to the rates of import duty in accordance with the schedule indicated opposite each article.

**SECTION 2.** The nomenclature and rates of import duty on tariff headings not enumerated and those listed but represented by the symbol “x x x” shall remain in force and in effect.

**SECTION 3.** Upon the effectivity of this Executive Order, the articles specifically listed in the aforesaid “Annex” which are entered and withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines for consumption shall be levied the rates of duty herein prescribed.

**SECTION 4.** All Presidential issuances, administrative rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 5.** This Executive Order shall take effect following its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Done in the City of Manila, this 30 day of December, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **AVELINO J. CRUZ, JR.**  
Acting Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 265**  
**DEFINING THE APPROACH AND INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISM FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S**  
**COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM ON COMBATING TRANSNATIONAL CRIME**

**WHEREAS**, the globalization of the world's economies and advances in information technology have significantly contributed to the growing sophistication of transnational crimes and their continuing threat to our nation's political, economic and socio-cultural stability and security;

**WHEREAS**, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, which the Philippines signed on 14 December 2000 and ratified on 28 May 2002 encourages the formulation of coordinated national policy, legislative, administrative, and law enforcement approaches to prevent and combat transnational crime more effectively;

**WHEREAS**, the ASEAN Declaration on Transnational Organized Crime and its implementing instruments, the ASEAN Plan of Action to Combat Transnational Organized Crime and its Work Programme, call on all Member-States of the ASEAN to solidify governmental efforts in areas of information exchange, training, legislation, law enforcement, institution-building, and extra-regional cooperation;

**WHEREAS**, to address the range of transnational crimes affecting our country, Executive Order No. 62 was issued on 15 January 1999 creating the Philippine Center on Transnational Crime to formulate and implement a concerted program of action of all law enforcement intelligence and other agencies for the prevention and control of transnational crime;

**WHEREAS**, current realities demand a comprehensive, focused concerted and synchronized effort which should be orchestrated at the highest echelons of policy and decision-making, not only to underscore the importance of combating transnational crime in establishing and sustaining our Strong Republic, but also to ensure proper guidelines for the various instrumentalities of government which have different mandates in dealing with transnational crime;

**WHEREAS**, given the nature and extent of transnational crime, the establishment of an oversight body is necessary to provide the critical link between and among local, national, regional and international agencies and organizations in forging agreements, concretizing cooperation and harmonizing action;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, the President has the continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the Office of the President.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. Principles.** – The approach to combating transnational crime shall be governed by the following principles:



- 
- a. A comprehensive approach to combating transnational crime shall cover money laundering and other financial crimes, trafficking in persons, piracy and armed robbery against ships, illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, illegal trafficking of drugs and psychotropic substances, fraud, cyberspace crime, intellectual property rights violations, smuggling, and other crimes that have an impact on the country's stability and security.
  - b. A comprehensive approach to combating transnational crime strictly adheres to the doctrine of the rule of law. All agencies involved in the campaign against transnational crime shall enforce the law without fear or favor, and at the same time accord full respect to the constitutional rights of those suspected or accused of transgressing the law.
  - c. A comprehensive approach to combating transnational crime systematically orchestrates the convergence of local agency efforts. The nature and dynamics of transnational crime require a multi-faceted response system that necessarily involves offices and units under different departments or agencies of government. Thus, these entities shall, in the exercise of their specific mandates on certain transnational crimes, regularly consult and coordinate with one another in order to focus and synchronize actions, resources and interventions.
  - d. A comprehensive approach to combating transnational crime actively engages community participation at the grassroots level. The most effective hindrance to criminality is a vigilant citizenry. Therefore, all agencies involved in the campaign against transnational crime shall endeavor to educate and empower communities as information networks, anti-crime advocates, and force multipliers.
  - e. A comprehensive approach to combating transnational crime vigorously pursues mutual assistance and cooperation among regional and international partners. As a member of the community of nations, the Philippines shall support all regional and international agreements on transnational crime to which it is a signatory, and proactively seek other forms of bilateral or multilateral cooperation. In this light, all instrumentalities of government that are concerned with transnational crime shall align their programs and projects with the provisions of such agreements.

**SECTION 2. *Components.*** – The Comprehensive Program on Combating Transnational Crime shall henceforth include, but shall not be limited to, the following components:

- a. Strengthening information and intelligence gathering. – This component shall include the establishment of a central shared database on national and international laws on transnational crime, case files, profiles of groups and personalities engaged in transnational crime, and other related information that will assist in the prevention and detection of transnational crime and the apprehension and prosecution of persons engaged in transnational crime.
  - b. Strategic research. – This component shall involve the conduct of studies on the structure and dynamics of transnational crime in all its forms and assessments of the vulnerability of certain areas and sectors of transnational crime, towards the formulation of more effective strategies, policies and legislations against such crimes.
  - c. Intensifying law enforcement operation. – This component shall include the development and adoption of synergistic implementation plans and operating procedures among various law enforcement agencies that address both the supply and demand side of any transnational crime.
  - d. Capacity-building and empowerment for major stakeholders. – This component shall involve the design and implementation of training and other programs to enhance the capacity of
-

law enforcement agencies, local government units, non-government organizations, civil society groups and community leaders in combating transnational crime and their consequences.

- e. Reinforcing regional and international cooperation. – This components shall include providing technical assistance and information exchanges, participation in regional and international fora on transnational crime, forging of agreements, and other similar activities to address more effectively the various aspects of crimes having a regional or international dimension.

**SECTION 3. *Institutional Mechanism.*** – The institutional mechanism for implementing the Program shall be:

- a. The Presidency. – The President shall provide the active leadership in the campaign against transnational crimes.
- b. Special Envoy on Transnational Crime. – The Special Envoy on Transnational Crime (SETC) shall be mandated to set policy directions and program design standards. He shall advise the President on all matters regarding the transnational crime. He shall represent the Philippine government in regional and international fora that deal with transnational crime. He shall serve as the focal point for coordinating, integrating and evaluating the efforts of law enforcement & other government agencies involved in the campaign against transnational crime. He shall be appointed by the President and shall have the rank and remuneration of an Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.
- c. Transnational Crime Councils and Boards. – The various Councils and Boards created under existing laws to address specific transnational crimes, such as the Anti-Money Laundering Council, Anti-Trafficking Council, Dangerous Drugs Board and other similar agencies that may be created by legislation or executive fiat, shall continue to perform their functions in the campaign against the specific transnational crimes as mandated but must work closely with the SETC to harmonize and integrate all government efforts against transnational crime. A periodic report of the Councils and Boards shall be submitted to the President through the SETC.
- d. Secretariat. – In addition to its mandated functions, the Philippine Center on Transnational Crime (PCTC) shall also provide technical, operational and administrative support also to the SETC. The PCTC shall continue to be headed by an Executive Director.

**SECTION 4. *Funding.*** – The budget of the SETC shall be sourced from available funds as may be identified by the Secretary of Budget and Management. The Office of the SETC and the PCTC's total annual appropriations for the succeeding years shall be incorporated in the budget proposal of the Office of the President.

**SECTION 5. *Agency Support.*** – The SETC is authorized to call on all departments, agencies and instrumentalities of the government, including government-owned or controlled corporations, to actively assist in the effective and efficient implementation of the Comprehensive Program on Combating Transnational Crime. Such authority also covers agencies, councils or boards mentioned in Section 3(c) hereof.

**SECTION 6. *Repeal.*** – All orders, rules, regulations and issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 7. *Effectivity.*** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, JAN 23 2004

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 266**  
**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE STRONG REPUBLIC SCHOOL (SRS), A DISTANCE LEARNING**  
**SCHOOL, TO BRING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO IDENTIFIED**  
**DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES**

**WHEREAS**, the building of a Strong Republic requires an educated citizenry able to contribute to meeting the needs of the community;

**WHEREAS**, the combination of demographic growth, resource constraints and the socio-political conditions hampers government efforts to provide livelihood opportunities, education and other social services to the more remote and often conflict-ridden areas of the country;

**WHEREAS**, distance-learning technologies offer a way of meeting the development needs of these areas;

**NOW, THEREFORE I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Establishment of SRS.*** The Strong Republic School (SRS), a Distance Learning Program shall be established under the Department of Education (DepEd). The SRS shall take a three-track approach: through the formal school system; through the alternative learning systems of the Bureau of Non-Formal Education; and through orientation and training courses offered by other government agencies.

**SEC. 2. *Objectives and Scope.*** The SRS aims to:

- Expand the delivery of alternative learning systems among the impoverished sectors of the population and give their graduates access to the formal school system;
- Provide disadvantaged sectors of the population access to the formal school system through distance learning technologies and alternative learning systems;
- Offer entrepreneurship, livelihood and skills development programs through other government agencies.

Thus, SRS shall have three (3) components, namely:

1. Strong Republic Alternative Learning Systems
2. Strong Republic Basic Education Curriculum
3. Strong Republic Technical/Vocational Skills Training

**SEC. 3. *Priority Areas.*** The SRS will prioritize a group of remote and impoverished barangays in conflict areas.

**SEC. 4. *DepED SRS System.*** For the DepEd, the SRS Program will take a two-track approach. The first track, following the projects of the Bureau of Non-Formal Education, will deliver the basic

literacy and Non-Formal Education A&E system for the participants who have not had access to any formal schooling or those who have dropped out. The second track will provide assistance to the established formal school system with focus on the five (5) learning areas known as MAKABAYAN, a learning area intended to equip target learners with core life skills. The system will use appropriate distance learning information technology package as the major delivery mode.

**SEC. 5. *Other Implementing Agencies***

The Department of Education shall be the lead implementing agency and shall ensure inclusion of the Strong Republic School in the DepEd's priority regular programs. The SRS will also draw support from agencies which can make use of the technical facilities provided the SRS for their own program when classes are not in session.

1. Department of Agriculture
2. Department of Environment and Natural Resources
3. Department of Interior and Local Government
4. Department of Health
5. Department of National Defense-Armed Forces of the Philippines
6. Department of Public Works and Highways
7. Department of Social Welfare and Development
8. Department of Trade and Industry
9. National Anti-Poverty Commission
10. National Commission on Indigenous Peoples
11. Office of Muslim Affairs
12. Philippine Information Agency
13. Department of Science and Technology
14. Technology and Livelihood Resource Center
15. Technical Education and Skills Development Authority

The Eskwela ng Bayan (ENB) will be seconded to the DepEd and tasked to provide technical support for the SRS Program.

The Office of the Secretary for the President's Priority Programs and Official Development Assistance Projects (PPPODAP) shall consolidate recommendations on the further enhancement of the SRS and facilitate coordination among implementing agencies.

The SRS Program may call on the participation of other government agencies and the different leagues of Local Governments and Local Officials as necessary to attain its objectives.

**SEC. 6. *Initial Funding for SRS.*** A start-up fund of PhP 15 Million shall be provided by DepEd for the initial operations of the SRS Program. Appropriations for the succeeding years shall be included in the budget proposal for the DepEd.

**SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** The DepEd shall lead the formulation of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) for this Executive Order, in coordination with the Office of the Secretary for the President's Priority Programs and Official Development Assistance (ODA) Projects (PPPODAP). Such IRR shall be issued within thirty (30) days from effectivity of this order.

**SEC. 8. *Effectivity.*** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 29<sup>th</sup> day of December, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2003). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 267**

**DIRECTING THE INCLUSION OF THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER ON THE  
PEACE PROCESS (OPAPP) AS MEMBER OF THE EXPANDED NATIONAL  
ANTI-POVERTY COMMISSION (NAPC)**

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 8425, institutionalized the Social Reform and Poverty Alleviation Program, Creating for the Purpose the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC);

**WHEREAS**, by virtue of Republic Act No. 8425, the NAPC is an embodiment of the partnership of the government and the basic sectors;

**WHEREAS**, the current composition of the NAPC membership among government agencies is limited to those provided in Section 6 of R.A. No. 8425, Executive Order No. 118 s. 2002 and NAPC En Banc Resolution No. 6 s. 2003;

**WHEREAS**, other national government agencies mandated to respond to issues of the basic sectors are not included in R.A. No. 8425 because they were either created after the passage of the law or were excluded because they were already performing coordinative and oversight functions;

**WHEREAS**, the inclusion of the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP) is important to the completion of the comprehensive peace agenda of the government and to monitor the effectiveness of reforms that directly and indirectly address the root causes of armed conflict;

**WHEREAS**, in En Banc Resolution No. 8, dated October 30, 2003, NAPC resolved to submit to the President for approval, the inclusion of the OPAPP as an additional member of NAPC;

**WHEREAS**, NAPC is chaired by the President of the Republic of the Philippines, who has executive powers to effect continuing re-organization within the government structure for effective and efficient implementation of poverty reduction strategies.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Expanded Membership*** – The Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process shall be included as a regular member of the NAPC.

**SEC. 2. *Powers and Functions*** – The member agencies of the expanded NAPC shall exercise powers and function as provided in Republic Act No. 8425.

**SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause*** – All executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 4. *Separability Clause*** – If any provision of this Executive Order is held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions thereof, which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**SEC. 5. *Effectivity*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, January 5, 2004

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 268**

MODIFYING THE RATES OF DUTY ON CERTAIN IMPORTED ARTICLES AS PROVIDED FOR UNDER THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978, AS AMENDED, IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THE COMMITMENT TO REDUCE THE TARIFF RATES ON SIXTY PERCENT (60%) OF THE PRODUCTS IN THE INCLUSION LIST TO ZERO PERCENT UNDER THE COMMON EFFECTIVE PREFERENTIAL TARIFF (CEPT) SCHEME FOR THE ASEAN FREE TRADE AREA (AFTA)

**WHEREAS**, the ASEAN Economic Ministers agreed during their meeting in March 1999 that the CEPT rates on at least 60% of the products in the individual Inclusion Lists of the six (6) original ASEAN Member States would be reduced to 0% by 2003;

**WHEREAS**, the NEDA Board during its meeting on 9 December 2003 approved the grant of CEPT rates of 0% on various products in the Philippine Inclusion List in compliance with the 60% target;

**WHEREAS**, Section 402 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978 (Presidential Decree No. 1464), as amended, empowers the President of the Republic of the Philippines, upon the recommendation of the National Economic and Development Authority, to increase, reduce or remove existing protective rates of import duty, as well as to modify the form of duty;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The articles specifically listed in Annex “A” (Articles Granted Zero Duty Under the CEPT Scheme for the AFTA) hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be subject to the ASEAN CEPT rates in accordance with the schedule indicated in Column 4 of Annex “A”. The ASEAN CEPT rates so indicated shall be accorded to imports coming from ASEAN Member States applying CEPT concession to the same product pursuant to Article 4 of the CEPT Agreement and its Interpretative Notes.

**SECTION 2.** From the date of effectivity of this Order, all articles listed in Annex “A” entered or withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines for consumption shall be imposed the rates of duty therein prescribed subject to compliance with the Rules of Origin as provided for in the Agreement on the CEPT Scheme for the AFTA signed on 28 January 1992.

**SECTION 3.** All presidential issuances, administrative rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are contrary or inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 4.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately following its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Done in the City of Manila, this 9th day of January, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 269**  
**CREATING THE COMMISSION ON INFORMATION AND**  
**COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY**

**WHEREAS**, Section 24, Article II (Declaration of Principles and State Policies) of the 1987 Constitution states that, “*The State shall recognize the vital role of communication and information in nation-building.*”;

**WHEREAS**, an enabling legal, policy and institutional environment to develop, promote and advance information and communications technology (ICT) is a prerequisite for the continued growth of the Philippine economy, the competitiveness of local industries and firms, and the achievement of national development goals;

**WHEREAS**, the government recognizes that the development of ICT will have a higher chance of success and sustainability if it is private sector-led, market-based and government-enabled;

**WHEREAS**, the Information Technology and Electronic Commerce Council (ITECC), created pursuant to Executive Order No. 264 dated July 12, 2000 and amended by Executive Order No. 18 dated May 25, 2001, currently functions as the primary planning and policy advisory body on development, promotion and application of national ICT and e-commerce initiatives;

**WHEREAS**, the creation of a Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) which will more effectively coordinate and implement national ICT programs, projects and other related initiatives is a priority of government, endorsed by ITECC, supported by the private sector and presently under consideration in Congress;

**WHEREAS**, as a transitory measure, the formation of a national body that is not merely advisory in nature, and which will have a more active role in streamlining, managing, coordinating, and implementing the various ICT-related plans and policies of government, will immediately address the urgent need to harmonize and make the country’s approach to ICT development more coherent and efficient;

**WHEREAS**, to be effective and efficient, such a national body, headed by a Cabinet ranked official, must be equipped with strong and clearly defined powers, appropriate manpower and resources;

**WHEREAS**, the creation of such an empowered national body is broadly supported by the private sector, which is keen to work closely with government to encourage ICT-related business and investment, enhance the skills of the country’s workforce, pursue meaningful legal and regulatory reform, continue to enhance the nation’s information infrastructure, and promote e-governance, consistent with Philippine goals to compete in the global ICT market;

**WHEREAS**, Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III of the 1987 Administrative Code provides the President with continuing authority to reorganize the bureaucracy;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the power vested upon me by law, do hereby order:

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**Section 1. *Creation.*** A new body to be known as the **Commission on Information and Communications Technology**, hereinafter referred to as the Commission, is hereby created, and attached to the Office of the President.

**Section 2. *Mandate.*** The Commission shall be the primary policy, planning, coordinating, implementing, regulating, and administrative entity of the executive branch of Government that will promote, develop, and regulate integrated and strategic ICT systems and reliable and cost-efficient communication facilities and services. In fulfilling its mandate, the Commission shall be guided by the following policies:

- (a) To ensure the provision of strategic, reliable and cost-efficient information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure, systems and resources as instruments for nation-building and global competitiveness;  
“Information and Communications Technology” (ICT) is defined as the totality of electronic means to collect, store, process and present information to end-users in support of their activities. It consists, among others, of computer systems, office systems and consumer electronics, as well as networked information infrastructure, the components of which include the telephone system, the Internet, fax machines and computers.
- (b) To ensure a policy and legal environment that will promote a level playing field, partnerships between the public and the private sectors, strategic alliances with foreign investors, balanced investments between high-growth and economically-depressed areas, and broader private sector participation in ICT development;
- (c) To foster and accelerate convergence of ICT facilities such as but not limited to the development of networks;
- (d) To ensure universal access and high-speed connectivity at fair and reasonable cost;
- (e) To ensure the provision of information and communication services in areas not adequately served by the private sector;
- (f) To foster the widespread use and application of emerging ICT;
- (g) To establish a strong and effective regulatory system that will ensure consumer protection and welfare and foster a healthy competitive environment;
- (h) To promote the development of ICT expertise in the country’s human capital to enable Filipinos to compete in a fast-evolving information and communication age;
- (i) To ensure the growth of the ICT industries;
- (j) To preserve the rights of individuals to privacy and confidentiality of their personal information;
- (k) To encourage the use of ICT in support of efforts for the development and promotion of the country’s arts and culture, history, education, public health and safety, and other socio-civic purposes;
- (l) To sustain the development of the nationwide postal system as an integral component of the overall development of ICT in the country.

**Section 3. *Composition.*** The Commission shall be composed of the National Computer Center, Telecommunications Office (TELOF), and all other operating units currently existing in the Department of Transportation and Communications, which directly support Communications, including the Telecommunications Policy and Planning Office. The National Telecommunications Commission and the Philippine Postal Corporation shall be attached to the Commission.

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The Commission shall be headed by a Chairman with a Cabinet Rank. He shall be assisted by the Director-General of the National Computer Center (NCC), and the Chief of the Telecommunications Office (TELOF) who, in addition to their current responsibilities, shall concurrently serve as Commissioners, and shall perform such functions as may be assigned by the Chairman. In addition, he shall be assisted by two additional Commissioners as may be provided in the structure and staffing plan to be determined pursuant to Section 6 hereof.

**Section 4. Powers and Functions.** To carry out its mandate, the Commission shall exercise the following powers and functions:

- (a) Formulate and recommend national policies and guidelines that will promote ICT and the wider use of the internet and other cyberspace infrastructures and exchanges of universal application, in consultation with the private business sector, relevant civil society institutions, and other private and public entities, such as educational and training sectors;
  - (b) Initiate, harmonize and coordinate all ICT plans to ensure their consistency with national objectives and goals;
  - (c) Establish and administer comprehensive and integrated programs for ICT at the national, regional, and local levels with due consideration to advances in convergence and other emerging technologies; and for this purpose, may call on any agency, corporation or organization, whether public or private, whose development programs in ICT are an integral part thereof, to participate and assist in the preparation and implementation of such programs;
  - (d) Design, implement, and ensure the protection of an integrated government information and communications infrastructure development program that will coordinate all existing government entities, taking into account all their existing plans, programs, proposals, software and hardware inventory, and the installed systems and programs;
  - (e) Provide an integrating framework and oversee the identification and prioritization of all e-government systems and applications as provided for in the Government Information Systems Plan; manage and/or administer the e-Government Fund, which shall be institutionalized and included in the proposed annual national budget;
  - (f) Coordinate with concerned agencies, the generation of resources, both governmental and non-governmental, local, national and international, as may be appropriate in and for the development, marketing, growth and competitiveness of the Philippine ICT Industry;
  - (g) Develop and implement, in coordination with concerned government agencies, a comprehensive ICT application capability in the national government and determine the personnel qualification and other standards essential to the integrated and effective development and operation of government information and communications infrastructure;
  - (h) Encourage and establish guidelines for private sector funding of ICT projects for government agencies in order to fast-track said projects which provide reasonable cost-recovery mechanisms for the private sector, including but not limited to Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) mechanisms;
  - (i) In coordination with the Department of Science and Technology, provide strategic direction to government research and development programs in ICT;
  - (j) Establish and prescribe rules and regulations for the establishment, operation and maintenance of ICT facilities in areas not adequately served by the private sector, in consultation with the private business sector, civil society, and other private and public entities, such as educational and training sectors;
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- (k) Establish and prescribe rules and regulations for the operation and maintenance of a nationwide postal system that shall include mail processing, delivery services, and money order services;
  - (l) Administer and enforce all laws, standards, rules, and regulations governing ICT, and in coordination with the Intellectual Property Office (IPO) ensure the protection of ICT-related intellectual property rights;
  - (m) In coordination with concerned agencies, ensure consumer protection and welfare, and protect the rights of consumer and business users to privacy, security and confidentiality;
  - (n) Harmonize, synchronize and coordinate with appropriate agencies all ICT and e-commerce policies, plans and programs;
  - (o) Assist the Department of Trade and Industry in carrying out its functions related to the promotion of trade and investment opportunities in ICT Services;
  - (p) In coordination with concerned agencies, promote strategic partnership and alliances among and between local and international ICT firms and institutions; R&D, educational and training institutions; and technology providers, developers and manufacturers, to speed up industry growth.
  - (q) In coordination with concerned agencies, plan and/or implement such activities as maybe appropriate and/or necessary to enhance the competitiveness of Philippine workers, firms, and small to medium enterprises in the global ICT market.
  - (r) In coordination with the Department of Education, formulate policies and initiatives with respect to IT education and the development, promotion and application of ICT in education.
  - (s) Perform such other powers and functions as may be prescribed by laws or as may be necessary, incidental or proper to its mandate or as may be assigned from time to time by the President.

**Section 5. Agency Responsibilities.** To carry out its mandate and objectives, the Commission shall be complemented by the appropriate agencies and/or offices of government. The Chairman is hereby given direct supervision and control over the following agencies and offices:

- (a) The National Computer Center (NCC) shall coordinate all e-government initiatives and the implementation of government IT plans to facilitate better, more efficient, and more transparent service.
- (b) The Telecommunications Office (TELOF) shall support the development of an information infrastructure with the strategy and direction set by ITECC.
- (c) Other operating units currently existing in the Department of Transportation and Communications, which directly support Communications, including the Telecommunications Policy and Planning Office, shall be consolidated under the Office of the Chairman.

The Commission shall align its structure to be consistent with the strategic directions established by ITECC, specifically e-government, information infrastructure, legal and regulatory environment, human resource and business development.

The Commission shall also be supported by and coordinate with the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC), and the Philippine Postal Corporation (PPC), as may be appropriate for and consistent with this Order. The NTC shall now receive policy guidelines from the Commission provided that the Commission shall not exercise any power, which will tend to influence or effect a review or a modification of the NTC's quasi-judicial functions.

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**Section 6. *Structure and Pattern.*** The Commission shall submit for approval to the Office of the President the organizational structure and staffing pattern of the Commission within sixty (60) days from the issuance of this Executive Order.

**Section 7. *Periodic Performance Evaluation.*** The Chairman is hereby required to formulate and enforce a system of measuring and evaluating periodically and objectively the performance of the Commission and to submit the same annually to the President.

**Section 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** The Chairman shall promulgate and issue such rules, regulations and other issuances within 60 days from the approval of this Executive Order as may be necessary to ensure the effective implementation of the provisions of this Executive Order.

**Section 9. *Funding.*** To carry out the provisions of this Order, funds for the necessary expenses for the operations of the Commission shall come from available funds of the national budget, and subsequent appropriations shall be incorporated in the budget proposal of the Commission, subject to existing accounting and auditing laws, and procedures.

**Section 10. *Transitory Provisions.*** In accomplishing the provisions herein prescribed, the following transitory provisions shall be complied with:

- (a) The NCC, TELOF and other units currently existing in DOTC, which directly support Communications, are hereby transferred to the Commission to ensure an effective and coordinated implementation of ICT policies, programs and projects.
- (b) All regular or permanent employees who shall be affected by this executive order shall not suffer any loss of seniority or rank or decrease in emoluments.

**Section 11. *Repealing Clause.*** All presidential acts, letters of instruction, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order, are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**Section 12. *Effectivity.*** This Order shall take effect immediately.

Done in the City of Manila this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January, in the year of Our Lord two thousand and four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By Authority of the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: Malacañang Records Office

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 270**  
**NATIONAL POLICY AGENDA ON REVITALIZING MINING IN THE PHILIPPINES**

**WHEREAS**, Section 1, Article XII of the Constitution provides that the goals of the national economy are a more equitable distribution of opportunities, income, and wealth; a sustained increase in the amount of goods and services produced by the nation for the benefit of the people; and an expanding productivity as the key to raising the quality of life for all, especially the underprivileged; and that in the pursuit of these goals, all sectors of the economy and all regions of the country shall be given optimum opportunity to develop;

**WHEREAS**, Section 2, Article XII of the Constitution provides that the exploration, development and utilization of mineral resources shall be under the control and supervision of the State and Section 16, Article II thereof provides that it is the State's policy to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines has potentially vast mineral resources that can be utilized for economic development and poverty alleviation, especially in the rural areas;

**WHEREAS**, Section 2, Republic Act No. 7942, otherwise known as the Philippine Mining Act of 1995 (Mining Act), provides that it shall be the responsibility of the State to promote the rational exploration, development, utilization and conservation of mineral resources through the concerted efforts of Government and private sector, in order to enhance national growth in a way that effectively safeguards the environment and protects the right of affected communities;

**WHEREAS**, paragraph 46 of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) provides that mining, minerals and metals are important to the economic and social development of many countries and that in order to enhance their contribution to sustainable development, there is a need to address the environmental, economic, health and social impacts and benefits and enhance the participation of stakeholders throughout the life cycles of mining operations;

**WHEREAS**, Section 8 of the Mining Act provides that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) shall be the primary Government agency responsible for the conservation, management, development and proper use of the country's mineral resources.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy.** It shall be the policy of the Government to promote responsible mineral resources exploration, development and utilization, in order to enhance economic growth, in a manner that adheres to the principles of sustainable development and with due regard for justice and equity, sensitivity to the culture of the Filipino people and respect for the Philippine sovereignty.



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**SEC. 2. Guiding Principles.** The pursuit of the foregoing policy shall be guided by the following principles:

- a) Government recognizes the critical role of investments in the minerals industry for national development and poverty alleviation and shall provide support mechanisms for a sustained mineral exploration program, responsive research and development priorities and capability building for industry manpower.
- b) Clear, stable and predictable investment and regulatory policies shall be instituted to facilitate investments in mining, leading to a prosperous minerals industry.
- c) Value-adding as a measure of optimizing benefits from minerals for the Filipino people shall be pursued through the development of downstream industries to achieve greater productivity and efficiency.
- d) Small-scale mining shall be promoted as a formal sector of the minerals industry and as part of the development initiative for both downstream and upstream industries.
- e) Efficient technologies shall be adopted to ensure the judicious extraction and optimum utilization of non-renewable mineral resources to enhance sustainability.
- f) Protection of the environment shall be of paramount consideration in every stage of a mining operation; mitigation and progressive rehabilitation measures shall be integral components of mining operations.
- g) The ecological integrity of areas affected by mining operation, including biodiversity resources and small island ecosystem shall be upheld in order to protect public welfare, safety and environmental quality.
- h) Mining operations shall be pursued within the framework of multiple land use and sustainable utilization of mineralized areas.
- i) Remediation and rehabilitation of abandoned mines shall be accorded top priority to address the negative impacts of past mining projects.
- j) The economic and social benefits derived from mining shall be equitably shared by and among various units of government, as well as the affected communities.
- k) Sustained information, education and communication campaign shall be vigorously pursued, jointly with the industry and other stakeholders, about the minerals industry for purposes of enhancing public awareness and respect for the rights of communities, and reaching informed decisions on mining and related projects both at the national and local levels.
- l) Continuous and meaningful consultation process with the industry and all other stakeholders shall be instituted, to integrate concerns on minerals in resource management policy and planning.

**SEC. 3. Implementing Strategies.** The foundations for good governance based on transparency, accountability, partnership, equity, efficiency, and sustainability shall be adopted in the implementation of this Executive Order.

**SEC. 4. Formulation of Action Plan for Minerals Development.** A Mineral Action Plan (MAP) for minerals development anchored on the foregoing guiding principles and implementing strategies shall be formulated to provide the strategic directions, and rules and regulations for the exploration, development and utilization of the country's mineral resources.

For this purpose, the DENR is hereby directed to take the lead in the preparation of the MAP, which shall set, among others, the guidelines and procedures on the simplification and streamlining of permit and clearance systems, in consultation with agencies concerned, such as, but not limited to,

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the Department of Trade and Industry, the Department of the Interior and Local Government, the Department of Finance, the National Economic Development Authority, the National Anti-Poverty Commission, the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples, the mining industry and civil society.

The Draft MAP shall be submitted to the Office of the President within ninety (90) days upon the approval of this Executive Order.

**SEC. 5. *Support from Other Agencies.*** All departments, agencies and instrumentalities of Government are hereby directed to provide priority support in the formulation of the MAP.

**SEC. 6. *Effectivity.*** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of January, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

**Source: Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 270-A**  
**AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 270**

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 270 entitled “NATIONAL POLICY AGENDA ON REVITALIZING MINING IN THE PHILIPPINES” was issued on January 16, 2004;

**WHEREAS**, there is need to expressly stipulate the concerns referring to the protection of rights of indigenous peoples and communities;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** Section 2 (a), (f) and (g) of Executive Order No. 270 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“a) Government recognizes the critical role of investments in the minerals industry for national development and poverty alleviation and shall provide support mechanism for sustained mineral exploration program, *including the streamlining of procedures of concerned government agencies and instrumentalities relating to the grant of mining tenements*, responsive research and development priorities and capability building for industry manpower”.

“f) Protection of the environment shall be of paramount consideration in every stage of mining operation; mitigation and progressive rehabilitation measures shall be integral components of mining operations. *Decommissioning and/or final mine rehabilitation shall be supported by the most appropriate environmental financial surety*”.

“g) The ecological integrity of areas affected by mining operation, including biodiversity resources and small-island ecosystems, shall be *safeguarded* in order to protect public welfare, safety and environmental quality. *The rights of affected communities, including the rights of Indigenous Cultural Communities, especially the Free and Prior Informed Consent requirement, shall be protected*”.

**SEC. 2. Repealing Clause.** All executive orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 3. Effectivity.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 20th day of April, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 271**  
**ESTABLISHING A PHILIPPINE PERMANENT MISSION TO THE WORLD TRADE**  
**ORGANIZATION (WTO)**

**WHEREAS**, a coherent and effective trade policy is a key enabler and promoter of national development, and should aim to create opportunities for sustainable economic growth and higher living standards for Filipinos in accordance with the national interest and efforts towards the building of a strong Republic;

**WHEREAS**, international trade law issues are increasingly more complex, technical, and far-reaching in impact as a result of the worldwide trend towards globalization and economic integration, making current negotiations before the World Trade Organization, among others, of greater significance and importance to the nation's economic development;

**WHEREAS**, the Government recognizes the importance of continuing multilateral and other trade negotiations being conducted under the framework of the World Trade Organization (WTO), established pursuant to the Uruguay Round Agreement signed on 15 April 1994, as well as discussions in other trade policy organizations such as the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD);

**WHEREAS**, the Government recognizes the need to provide for enhanced technical assistance and support for government negotiators and agencies involved in reviewing matters of trade policy, market access and development, and desires to increase its capability to act in a timely and coordinated basis on said matters;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law and the Constitution, do hereby order:

**Section 1. Establishment of the Permanent Philippine Mission to WTO.** There is hereby established and created a Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to the World Trade Organization, located in Geneva.

**Section 2. Scope of Powers and Functions.** The Mission henceforth shall be considered a distinct diplomatic mission and post of the Republic of the Philippines responsible for leading trade negotiations, handling trade disputes and representing the Republic of the Philippines before the World Trade Organization, and in addition coordinating closely with the existing Philippine Mission to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva insofar as trade policy discussions before the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and any other organization so designated by the President or the Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

**Section 3. Staffing.** The Mission is to be staffed as a conventional diplomatic mission and post of the Republic of the Philippines, and headed by a Permanent Representative, who shall have the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Chief of Mission I and supported by the appropriate and necessary administrative and technical staff.

**Section 4. Technical Assistance and Support.** The Mission shall also receive instructions, technical assistance and support, from the Department of Foreign Affairs - Office of the Undersecretary for International Economic Relations (OUIER) and the Office of United Nations & International Organizations (UNIO), the Department of Trade and Industry - International Trade Group, specifically the Bureau of International Trade Relations (BITR) and the personnel of the Foreign Trade Service Corps in Geneva, Switzerland, the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) – Trade, Industry and Utilities Staff (TIUS) involved with the Committee on Tariffs and Related Matters (CTRM), the Department of Agriculture insofar as agricultural policy is concerned, as well as any branch, department, bureau, office, agency and instrumentality of the government including government-owned and controlled corporations, as designated by the President.

**Section 5. Private Sector Assistance and Support.** The Mission shall also be able to rely and receive, to the extent permitted by law and regulations, appropriate and necessary logistics, technical or research assistance and support from the private sector community, the academe, trade associations, and NGOs, in order to enable the Mission to better serve the national interest.

**Section 6. Funding.** The initial appropriations necessary to achieve the objectives of this Order shall be drawn from existing appropriations of the Department of Foreign Affairs and supplemented by the President's Contingent Fund and other approved sources. Succeeding appropriations shall be incorporated in the budget proposals of the Department of Foreign Affairs, and, where appropriate, in the budget proposals of the Department of Trade and Industry, the Department of Agriculture or the NEDA.

**Section 7. Separability Clause.** The provisions of this Order are hereby declared to be separable, and in the event that any provision or part thereof is declared unconstitutional, the other provisions or parts thereof which are not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

**Section 8. Repealing Clause.** Any Order, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof, inconsistent with this Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**Section 9. Effectivity Clause.** This Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE, in the city of Manila, on this 19 day of January, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 272**

**AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF THE SOCIAL HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION AND  
DIRECTING THE TRANSFER OF THE COMMUNITY MORTGAGE PROGRAM, ABOT-KAYA  
PABAHAY FUND PROGRAM, AND OTHER SOCIAL HOUSING POWERS AND FUNCTIONS  
OF THE NATIONAL HOME MORTGAGE FINANCE CORPORATION TO THE SOCIAL  
HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Constitution mandates the State to undertake a continuing program of urban land reform and housing which will make available, at affordable cost, decent housing and basic services to underprivileged and homeless citizens in urban centers and resettlement areas;

**WHEREAS**, the National Home Mortgage Finance Corporation [NHMFC] was created under Presidential Decree No. 1267 with the primary purpose of developing and providing a secondary market for home mortgages granted by public and/or private home financing institutions;

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 6846 [RA 6846], otherwise known as the “*Social Housing Support Fund Act of 1990*,” as amended by Republic Act No. 7835 [RA 7835], otherwise known as the “*Comprehensive and Integrated Shelter Financing Act of 1994*,” created the *Abot-Kaya Pabahay* Fund [AKPF] to enhance the affordability of low-cost housing by low-income families, provide developmental financing for low-cost housing projects, and eliminate the risks for the government funding agencies involved in housing, and designated the NHMFC to act as the trustee of the AKPF and exercise administration and control over the AKPF amortization support program and AKPF developmental financing program;

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 7279 [RA 7279], otherwise known as the “*Urban Development and Housing Act of 1992*,” adopted the Community Mortgage Program [CMP] as a component of the National Shelter Program to assist legally-organized associations of underprivileged and homeless citizens to purchase and develop a tract of land and to own lots they occupy or where they choose to relocate to, under the concept of community ownership, and designated the NHMFC as the administrator of the CMP;

**WHEREAS**, the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council [HUDCC] Secretariat, through the HUDCC Chairman, has recommended the creation of the Social Housing Finance Corporation [SHFC] as a wholly-owned subsidiary of the NHMFC, to perform the latter’s powers and functions relating to the administration, management and development of the CMP and the AKPF Program (amortization support program and developmental financing program), as well as other social housing functions of the NHMFC, in order to allow the NHMFC to devote full attention to its mandate to develop and provide a secondary market for home mortgages granted by public and/or private home financing institutions;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. Authority to Establish the Social Housing Finance Corporation.** – The National Home Mortgage Finance Corporation [NHMFC] is hereby authorized to organize and establish a body corporate to be known as the Social Housing Finance Corporation [SHFC], as a wholly-owned

subsidiary, to be formed in accordance with the Corporation Code and pertinent rules and regulations issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission [SEC]. Upon its incorporation, the SHFC shall be under the administrative supervision of the HUDCC.

**SECTION 2. *Mandate.*** – The SHFC shall be the lead government agency to undertake social housing programs that will cater to the formal and informal sectors in the low-income bracket and shall take charge of developing and administering social housing program schemes, particularly the CMP and the AKPF Program (amortization support program and developmental financing program).

**SECTION 3. *Capitalization, Powers and Functions of the SHFC.*** – The NHMFC, as the incorporator and holding company of the SHFC, shall determine the capitalization, powers and functions of the SHFC.

**SECTION 4. *Board of Directors of the SHFC.*** – The Board of Directors of the SHFC shall be composed of the following:

- a. HUDCC Chairman as *ex-officio* Chairman;
- b. SHFC President as *ex-officio* Vice Chairman;
- c. Secretary of the Department of Finance or his designated representative;
- d. Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government, or his designated representative;
- e. Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management, or his designated representative;
- f. Representative from the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas* [BSP] designated by the BSP Governor;
- g. Representative from the NHMFC designated by the Board of Directors of NHMFC; and
- h. Four (4) representatives from the private sector, who shall be nominated by the President of the Republic of the Philippines.

**SECTION 5. *President of the SHFC.*** – The President of the SHFC shall be nominated by the President of the Republic of the Philippines.

**SECTION 6. *Transfer.*** – Upon the incorporation of the SHFC, the following funds and programs directed towards social housing shall be transferred from the NHMFC to the SHFC:

- (a) The CMP, including all funds appropriated for the CMP;
- (b) The AKPF Program (amortization support program and the developmental financing program); and
- (c) Such other funds, programs and functions related to social housing as may be determined by the NHMFC Board.

Upon such transfer, all powers, functions, rights and duties previously exercised by the NHMFC relating to the administration, management and development of the CMP and the AKPF Program (amortization support program and the developmental financing program), whether as administrator or as trustee, as well as the other social housing functions of the NHMFC to be determined by the NHMFC Board, shall be transferred to and exercised by the SHFC.

**SECTION 7. *Transfer Committee.*** – A Transfer Committee composed of the HUDCC Chairman, the NHMFC President, a representative from the DBM, and two (2) representatives from the HUDCC, shall prepare the necessary plans and measures to effect the transfer of all assets, liabilities and records of the CMP and the AKPF Program (amortization support program and the developmental financing program) to the SHFC within thirty (30) days from the issuance of this Executive Order.



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The NHMFC, SHFC and the Transfer Committee are hereby directed to take all the necessary steps towards effecting the efficient transfer of the CMP and the AKPF Program (amortization support program and the developmental financing program) from the NHMFC to the SHFC and shall jointly submit a report to the President on all actions taken to implement the provisions of this Executive Order within thirty (30) days after the SHFC shall have been organized and established.

**SECTION 8. *Personnel.*** – The SHFC position structure and staffing pattern shall be subject to the approval of the DBM. To ensure the continued implementation of the CMP and the AKPF Program (amortization support program and the developmental financing program) during the period of transfer and transition, the NHMFC personnel who are performing the functions transferred to the SHFC shall continue to perform such duties; provided, that those personnel whose positions or job descriptions are not included in the SHFC position structure and staffing pattern may, at their option, remain with the NHMFC, retire, or be separated from the service, and shall be entitled to the benefits provided by law at the time of retirement or separation.

**SECTION 9. *Existing Policies and Rules.*** – Existing policies, guidelines, rules and regulations with respect to the functions of the NHMFC which have been transferred to the SHFC shall continue in effect until amended or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause.*** – All executive issuances, guidelines, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are contrary or inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 11. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, JAN 20 2004

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: Malacañang Records Office

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 273**  
**TRANSFERRING THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT'S DRUG TREATMENT**  
**AND REHABILITATION CENTERS AND PROGRAM NATIONWIDE TO THE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

**WHEREAS**, in line with the priority concern of the current Administration to remove the scourge of dangerous drugs in the country, the 12<sup>th</sup> Congress enacted and the President signed into law Republic Act (R.A.) 9165, also known as the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act 2002, reputed to be one of the strictest laws against dangerous drug abuse in Asia;

**WHEREAS**, the said law delineated the functions and roles of various agencies in the government in its campaign against dangerous drugs;

**WHEREAS**, there are over 6,000 institutionalized drug dependents in treatment and rehabilitation centers out of the estimated 1.8 million chronic drug users nationwide;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to improve and further strengthen treatment and rehabilitation centers to accommodate the growing need brought about by the improved apprehensions and law enforcement by the present Administration;

**WHEREAS**, R.A. 9165 tasked the Department of Health (DOH) to “oversee and monitor the integration, coordination and supervision of all drug rehabilitation, intervention, after-care and follow-up programs, projects and activities as well as the establishment, operations, maintenance and management of privately-owned drug treatment rehabilitation centers and drug testing networks and laboratories throughout the country in collaboration with the DSWD and other agencies”;

**WHEREAS**, R.A. 9165 further mandates that the existing treatment and rehabilitation centers for drug dependents operated and maintained by the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) and Philippine National Police (PNP) shall be operated, maintained and managed by the DOH in coordination with other concerned agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, a Joint Executive, Legislative, Private Sector Initiative letter, dated December 10, 2003 and signed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, both the House and Senate Chairmen of the Oversight Committee on Dangerous Drugs, DILG Secretary and OIC Chair of the Dangerous Drugs Board, the DOH Secretary, and a representative of the Private Sector, was sent to the President expressing support and the need to improve treatment and rehabilitation efforts;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order,

**SECTION 1. *Transfer of PNP and NBI Treatment and Rehabilitation Centers to DOH*** - The existing government drug treatment and rehabilitation centers (TRC's), including the PNP TRCs in Bicutan, Iloilo, Albay, Cebu and NBI TRCs in Tagaytay, Cagayan de Oro and Cebu, along with the corresponding logistics (Maintenance Operating and Other Expenses, Personnel Services and equipment) are hereby transferred to the DOH.

**SEC. 2. *Transition Committee*** - A Transition Committee shall be created to assist the DOH in implementing this Order. The Committee shall be composed of the DOH as Chair and the following

as members; Department of Interior and Local Government, Department of Justice, Department of Budget and Management and the Private Sector Representative of the Dangerous Drugs Board.

The Transition Committee shall ensure among others, the actual resource transfer from PNP and NBI to the DOH, including newly constructed buildings. The Committee shall ensure that no personnel shall be displaced, nor shall there be diminution of their salaries and benefits, and that affected personnel shall be given the option to stay with their mother units. The Committee shall ensure the smooth turn-over/transition of administration and control of the above identified areas to the DOH.

**SEC. 3. *Funding*** - An initial amount of P350 Million from the P 1 Billion standby fund for Anti-Dangerous Drugs Campaign shall be allotted to the DOH for it to immediately assume the mandate to operate existing government TRCs in 2004 and improve treatment and rehabilitation programs. The current allotment for TRCs operated and maintained by the PNP and NBI shall be transferred to the DOH in the General Appropriations Act (GAA) FY 2005. The Department of Budget and Management shall help identify the specific allotments which include Personnel Salaries and Maintenance, Operating and Other Expenses.

The Department of Budget and Management shall provide for an additional P 300 Million to be included in the GAA FY 2005 for the DOH to hire additional personnel, train/improve capability of existing personnel, modernize/expand existing facilities and establish more TRCs specially in regions where there are none.

**SEC. 4. *Separability Clause*** - In the event that any provision hereof is declared invalid by any competent court or tribunal, the other provisions hereof shall remain unaffected, and shall remain in full force and effect.

**SEC. 5. *Effectivity*** - This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 20TH day of Jan, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: Malacañang Records Office

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 274**

AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 155 DATED DECEMBER 11, 2002 TO REVISE THE  
COMPOSITION OF THE ELEMENTS OF THE ANTI-SMUGGLING INTELLIGENCE AND  
INVESTIGATION CENTER (ASIIC)

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 155, s. 2002 created the Anti-Smuggling Intelligence and Investigation Center (ASIIC) to investigate and interdict smuggling and other acts contrary to the Tariff and Customs Code of the Philippines committed on large scale or by criminal syndicates and for other purposes;

**WHEREAS**, Section 3 of EO 155 provides that the center, be composed, among others, of the elements of the Presidential Security Group (PSG), and the Intelligence Service, Armed Forces of the Philippines (ISAFP);

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to provide the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) with the flexibility to utilize any appropriate unit to fully support the government's anti-crime campaign.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** Section 3 of EO 155, s. 2002, is hereby amended to read as follows:

*“Sec. 3. Composition – The Center shall be composed of elements of the following:*

- a. Armed Forces of the Philippines;*
- b. Bureau of Customs;*
- c. Philippine National Police;*
- d. Philippine Coast Guard; and*
- e. Department of Justice.*

**Sec. 2. Effectivity** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 26TH day of Jan, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 275**

COMMISSIONING JOINTLY THE PHILIPPINE SPORTS COMMISSION AND THE PHILIPPINE  
SPORTS ASSOCIATION FOR THE DIFFERENTLY-ABLED, INC. (PHILSPADA) TO HOST THE  
3<sup>RD</sup> ASEAN PARAGAMES 2005

**WHEREAS**, the PSC under its enabling law is mandated to carry out and undertake a unified national sports promotion and develop program, to provide leadership, formulate policies and set the priorities and directions of all national amateur sports association in the promotion and development of sports, particularly giving emphasis on grassroots participation of all sectors, government and private, to fully prepare our athletes for international competitions;

**WHEREAS**, PHILSPADA in the national coordinating non-government agency on matters related to sports of persons with disabilities, as well as spearheads/initiates programs and projects towards its development and promotion;

**WHEREAS**, PHILSPADA is a member of the ASEAN Para Sports Federation, the Regional Organization for Sports for Persons with Disabilities and Far East and South Pacific Games for the Disabled (FESPIC);

**WHEREAS**, PHILSPADA is duly recognized by the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) as the National Sports Association (NSA) for the sector with disability and is an accredited member of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC).

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby commission jointly the Philippine Sports Association for the Differently-Abled, Inc. (PHILSPADA) and the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) to undertake the hosting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN PARAGAMES 2005. In preparation for the forthcoming sports competition, full support of all public and private agencies are hereby enjoined. Any financial contribution to the PSC for the specific purpose of hosting the 3<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN PARAGAMES 2005 shall be exempt from donor's tax. Any donations to, or proceeds from the fundraising activities of, PHILSPADA for the specific purpose of hosting this event may be exempt from donors or income tax to the extent and under the conditions allowed by existing law.

I call upon the Department of Education, Department of Transportation and Communications, Department of National Defense, Department of the Interior and Local Government, Department of Social Welfare and Development, Department of Tourism, Department of Health, Department of Public Works and Highways, Department of Foreign Affairs, Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation, The Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office, National Council for the Welfare of Disabled Persons, Philippine Information Agency and other government agencies, as well as the mass media and the entire citizenry, for their wholehearted support and cooperation on this worthy undertaking. Further, government agencies are authorized to use their respective budget to fund the activities for the purpose.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 26TH day of Jan, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 276**  
**IMPLEMENTING THE ENHANCED “PCSO GREATER MEDICARE ACCESS” PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, Section 11, Article XIII of the 1987 Constitution declares that the State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other services available to all the people at affordable cost;

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act (R.A.) No. 7875 or the National Health Insurance Act of 1995, which aims to provide all Filipinos access to quality health services through an enhanced Medicare program, was enacted to operationalize the aforesaid constitutional mandate;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to R.A. No. 7875 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations, the premium contributions for indigent members under the National Health Insurance Program (NHIP) are subsidized by the National Government (NG) and the local government unit (LGU) where the indigents reside;

**WHEREAS**, there is a prevalent clamor for the prioritization and acceleration of the universal coverage of the indigent sector under the NHIP to uplift their health, well-being and security;

**WHEREAS**, the universal coverage of the indigent sector under the NHIP is being hampered by the financial inability of several LGUs to provide counterpart subsidy or contribution for the enrollment of their constituent indigent families under the NHIP as required by R.A. No. 7875;

**WHEREAS**, part of the powers exercised by LGUs under the Local Government Code are those which relate to the promotion of the health and safety of the constituents especially the poor;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Local Government Code, the barangay is mandated to ensure delivery of basic services particularly health and social welfare services;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Administrative Order No. 277 dated June 25, 1996, the concerned government agencies were directed to ensure the immediate and effective implementation of the NHIP.

**WHEREAS**, in April 2003, the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (Philhealth), in partnership with the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO), implemented the PCSO Greater Medicare Access Program that covered a total of 539,670 indigent families in local government units;

**WHEREAS**, Philhealth and the PCSO jointly conceptualized and formulated the enhanced PCSO Greater Medicare Access Program (the “Program”) to further accelerate the coverage of indigents or the sponsored sector under the NHIP with PCSO paying the full LGU counterpart and DBM the national government counterpart;

**WHEREAS**, the National Government (NG), thru the Office of the President (OP) and the PCSO, has thus earmarked funds for the purpose of assisting the concerned LGUs to finance their counterpart subsidy or contribution for the enrollment of their constituent indigent families, with the end in view of accelerating the universal coverage of the indigent sector under the Program by enrolling five million additional indigent families.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:



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**SECTION 1. Local Government Units.** – The LGUs are hereby directed to:

- a. Avail themselves of funding assistance for their counterpart subsidy requirements for the enrollment of their constituent indigent families under the Program.
- b. Sustain membership of indigent families under the Program by henceforth allocating funds to continue their membership therein.

**SEC. 2. PHILHEALTH.** – Philhealth is hereby directed to:

- a. Assist in the identification of indigent families and to target the enrollment of a total of five (5) million indigent families nationwide under the enhanced “PCSO Greater Medicare Access” Program.
- b. Issue Philhealth Identification Cards to duly qualified beneficiaries.
- c. Formulate and issue the Implementing Guidelines of this Order through a joint circular with PCSO.
- d. Perform all other acts necessary for the effective implementation of the Program.

**SEC. 3. PCSO.** – PCSO is hereby directed to:

- a. Remit to Philhealth the LGU premium counterpart for duly qualified beneficiaries pursuant to the Implementing Guidelines of this Order.
- b. Help facilitate the identification and enrollment of qualified indigent families in coordination with local Social Welfare Officers and/or the Punong Barangays and exert efforts necessary to facilitate and expedite the same, consistent with existing rules, procedures and guidelines.
- c. Issue appropriate resolutions, memoranda and office orders to formally adopt the enhanced “PCSO Greater Medicare Access” Program and perform all other acts necessary to ensure its smooth implementation.
- d. Formulate and issue the Implementing Guidelines of this Order through a joint circular with Philhealth.

**SEC. 4. Department of Budget and Mangement (DBM).** – DBM is hereby directed to:

- a. Allocate and facilitate the timely release of funds as payment for the National Government (NG) premium counterpart to Philhealth for the coverage of duly qualified beneficiaries.
- b. Perform all other acts necessary for the effective implementation of the Program.

**SEC. 5. Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG)** - DILG is hereby directed to:

- a. Instruct all Punong Barangays to accomplish the list of beneficiaries in accordance with the Implementing Guidelines of the Program.
  - b. Instruct its regional, provincial and municipal offices to mobilize their personnel to help the identification of beneficiaries, in consultation with the Punong Barangays and to provide other support services as may be deemed necessary.
  - c. Perform all other acts necessary for the effective implementation of the Program.
-

**SEC. 6. Department of Health (DOH), Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), and Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) – DOH, DAR and DSWD are hereby directed to:**

- a. Assist in the identification and enrollment of qualified indigent families in the Program.
- b. Instruct their respective regional, provincial and municipal offices to mobilize their personnel to help in the identification of beneficiaries, in consultation with the Punong Barangays and to provide other support services as may be deemed necessary.
- c. Perform all other acts necessary for the effective implementation of the Program.

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this **29th** day of **January**, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 277**

**APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE NATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY  
PROGRAMME, CREATING THE OFFICE FOR TRANSPORTATION SECURITY IN THE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS, AND RECONSTITUTING  
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY AS THE NATIONAL  
CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY COMMITTEE**

**WHEREAS**, there is an urgent need to safeguard civil aviation against acts of unlawful interference while taking into account the safety, regularity and efficiency of flights;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Executive Order No. 336 dated January 5, 2001, the National Council for Civil Aviation Security is responsible for formulating plans to direct, control, supervise and integrate all measures aimed at preventing and suppressing all terrorist threats to civil aviation;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, the President has continuing authority to reorganize the administrative, structure of Office of the President.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The National Civil Aviation Security Programme (NCASP), hereto attached as Annex “A”, is hereby approved and adopted.

**SECTION 2.** An Office for Transportation Security under the Department of Transportation and Communication is hereby created to be headed by an Undersecretary, who shall be primarily responsible for the implementation of Annex 17 of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Convention on aviation security.

**SECTION 3.** The National Council for Civil Aviation Security is hereby reconstituted as the National Civil Aviation Security Committee (NCASC), to be composed of the following:

|                                                              |               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Secretary, Department of Transportation and Communications   | Chairman      |
| Secretary, Department of the Interior and Local Government   | Co-Chairman   |
| Undersecretary, DOTC Office for Transportation Security      | Vice-Chairman |
| Assistant Secretary, Air Transportation Office               | Member        |
| General Manager, Manila International Airport Authority      | Member        |
| General Manager, Mactan-Cebu International Airport Authority | Member        |
| General Manager, Clark International Airport Corporation     | Member        |
| General Manager, Subic Bay International Airport Authority   | Member        |
| Manager, Davao International Airport                         | Member        |
| Manager, General Santos International Airport                | Member        |
| Manager, Laoag International Airport                         | Member        |
| Manager, Zamboanga International Airport                     | Member        |
| Director, Philippine National Police Aviation Security Group | Member        |
| Commissioner, Bureau of Customs                              | Member        |

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|                                                                              |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Commissioner, Bureau of Immigration                                          | Member |
| Administrator, Philippine Overseas Employment Administration                 | Member |
| Administrator, Overseas Worker Welfare Administration                        | Member |
| Executive Director, Department of Tourism                                    | Member |
| Protocol Officer, Department of Foreign Affairs                              | Member |
| Director, National Bureau of Investigation                                   | Member |
| Group Commander, Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines | Member |
| Director General, National Intelligence Coordinating Agency                  | Member |
| Group Commander, Presidential Security Group                                 | Member |
| Director, DA Bureau of Plant Industry                                        | Member |
| Director, DA Bureau of Animal Industry                                       | Member |
| Chief Superintendent, Bureau of Fire Protection                              | Member |
| Director, DOH Bureau of Quarantine and International Health Surveillance     | Member |

**SECTION 4.** In addition to its current functions, the NCASC shall be responsible for the implementation and maintenance of the NCASP and shall:

- a. Define and allocate tasks and coordinate activities among the agencies of the government, airport authorities, aircraft operators and other entities concerned with, or responsible for, the implementation of various aspects of the NCASP;
- b. Coordinate security activities among the agencies of the government, airport authorities, aircraft operators and other entities concerned with, or responsible for, the implementation of various aspects of the NCASP;
- c. Define and allocate tasks for the implementation of the NCASP among the agencies of the government, airport authorities, aircraft operators and other concerned entities;
- d. Ensure that each airport serving international civil aviation shall establish and implement a written airport security programme appropriate to meet the requirements of the NCASP;
- e. Arrange for an authority at each airport serving international civil aviation to be responsible for coordinating the implementation of security controls;
- f. Arrange for the establishment of an airport security committee at each airport serving international civil aviation to assist the authority mentioned in paragraph (e) above, in the coordination of the implementation of security controls and procedures;
- g. Coordinate and collaborate with the Task Force for Security of Critical Infrastructure under the Cabinet Oversight Committee on Internal Security; and
- h. Perform such other functions as the President may direct.

The DOTC Office for Transportation Security shall serve as the Secretariat of the NCASC.

**SECTION 5.** Repeal. – All orders, rules, regulations and issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 6.** *Effectivity.* – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, JAN 30 2004

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 278**  
**PRESCRIBING GUIDELINES FOR PROJECT LOAN NEGOTIATIONS AND PACKAGING OF  
GOVERNMENT FOREIGN-ASSISTED INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS**

**WHEREAS**, the 1987 Constitution and existing laws such as Commonwealth Act Nos. 138 & 541, Republic Act (RA) No. 5183, the Official Development Assistance (ODA) Act of 1996, as amended, and Republic Act (RA) No. 9184 (otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act) mandate the government to give preference to qualified Filipinos in the grant of rights, privileges, and concessions covering the national economy and patrimony, including the purchase of materials, supplies, goods, and equipment as well as in the hiring of consultants, contractors, architects, engineers and other professionals necessary for a project's implementation;

**WHEREAS**, for recent foreign-assisted infrastructure projects bid out by various government agencies, there have been concerns raised by the Philippine Constructors Association (PCA) and the Confederation of Filipino Consulting Organizations (COFILCO) that Filipino constructors and consultants are experiencing difficulty in participating in the bidding of such projects due to various reasons such as, among others, that the contracts have been packaged in sizes too large or beyond local financial capabilities or that the criteria and requirements for participation have been set above local capabilities and experience, or the criteria are set beyond the requirements of the project;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to prescribe guidelines in the areas of preparation and packaging of projects/contracts and loan negotiations for government foreign-assisted infrastructure projects which will provide Filipino constructors and consultants with better market opportunities and allow them to upgrade their capabilities and compete internationally;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *General Policy on Consultancy Services for Government Infrastructure Projects.*** As a general rule, the government should, as much as possible, fund consultancy services for government infrastructure projects with local funds and using local resources and expertise. Consultancy services shall be proposed for foreign assistance only where foreign funding is indispensable or local funds are insufficient. For this purpose, the concerned government units shall provide funds in their respective investment programs for the following consultancy services:

- a. Pre-investment components which shall include feasibility studies and related surveys and special studies;
- b. Detailed engineering design and related activities (where the project is determined to be feasible); or
- c. Project Management/Supervision

Where Filipino capability is determined by appropriate authorities to be insufficient, Filipino consultants may hire or associate themselves with foreign consultants, provided that the Filipino shall be the lead consultant.

Where foreign funding is indispensable, foreign consultants for the project must enter into joint venture with Filipino consultants.

**SEC. 2. *Packaging of Government Infrastructure Projects.*** The following basic principles shall govern the work packaging of government infrastructure projects, irrespective of the funding source:

- 2.1. Large government infrastructure projects, when feasible, shall be packaged into separable work components without sacrificing the technical integrity of the structure to be built and taking into account Filipino capabilities. Complex and/or multi-disciplinary infrastructure projects covering works of a different nature requiring varied competencies shall be packaged into separate work components to be defined in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of this Order.
- 2.2. The packaging of such projects shall take into account the technical and financial capabilities and experience of Filipino in the domestic and international market, as well as the most logical and practical scope of work to complete a project or any part thereof.
- 2.3. In the criteria for determining eligible or pre-qualified bidders, the successful completion of a single project whose value is at least fifty percent of the value of the contract to be bid shall be acceptable as work experience requirement.
- 2.4. Clustering of small and medium projects may be adopted, provided that the resulting cluster or package is within the capabilities of Filipino contractors.
- 2.5. However, packaging of projects that is tantamount to or will result in contract splitting as defined under Section 11 of Executive Order No. 109-A, for the purpose of evading or circumventing the requirements of law and/or existing rules and regulations, shall not be allowed.

**SEC. 3. *Pre-Loan Negotiations.*** Prior to loan negotiations, the negotiating panel shall convene a technical working group to include at least one (1) representative from the private sector to provide inputs and ensure transparency. The DOF shall invite the representative(s) upon recommendation by the Construction Industry Authority of the Philippines (CIAP), in case of infrastructure projects, and upon recommendation by the private sector concerned in case of goods and consulting services.

**SEC. 4. *Projects Preparation and Loan Negotiation Parameters.*** In the preparation of projects or negotiation of foreign loans for these projects, the government negotiating panels shall strictly observe the provisions of this EO including the following parameters:

- 4.1 Where special tax privileges are granted to a particular class/nationality by virtue of the government's international commitments, such tax privileges shall be included in the bid offers/financial proposals for purposes of evaluation and the basis of contract award.
- 4.2 To ensure the sustained promotion of Filipino talents in all fields, effect technology transfer, and adoption of measures that will help them become competitive, the loan agreement shall, whenever economically viable, provide for joint venture associations between Filipino and foreign firms.
- 4.3 The government negotiating panel shall ensure that the loan agreement, including exchanges of notes and other documents made integral parts thereof, do not contain provisions which

discriminate against Filipinos and limit their participation in the project to be funded under the loan agreement.

**SEC. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).** The NEDA Infrastructure Committee (INFRACOM) shall promulgate the IRR for this Order within sixty (60) days from date hereof.

**SEC. 6. Repealing Clause.** All executive issuances, orders, rules and regulations, department orders, circulars of parts thereof inconsistent with this Order are hereby repealed, amended and/or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 7. Separability Clause.** If any provision of this Order is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

**SEC. 8. Effectivity.** This Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of FEB, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 279**

**INSTITUTING REFORMS IN THE FINANCING POLICIES FOR THE WATER SUPPLY AND  
SEWERAGE SECTOR AND WATER SERVICE PROVIDERS AND PROVIDING FOR THE  
RATIONALIZATION OF LWUA'S ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS IN  
SUPPORT THEREOF**

**WHEREAS**, Presidential Decree No. 198 ("PD 198") established the Local Water Utilities Administration (LWUA), mandating it to serve as a "specialized lending institution" for the promotion, development and financing of local water utilities;

**WHEREAS**, the Local Government Units (LGUs) are responsible for the provision of basic services and facilities as enumerated under Section 17 of the Republic Act No. 7160 (Local Government Code), including among others, the provision of water supply and sewerage services;

**WHEREAS**, shifts in government financing policies and constraints in the availability of financing from the National Government, and lack of investor confidence in the water supply and sewerage sector and limited capital stock and domestic and foreign borrowing authority have constrained LWUA from providing financing assistance to qualified Water Districts (WDs);

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to tap financing resources available to the water sector, including international grants, and funding from government financing institutions (GFIs), private financing institutions (PFIs), and LGUs;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to review and rationalize current financing policies for the Philippine water supply and sewerage sector to allow for the efficient flow of resources thereto;

**WHEREAS**, cognizant of the urgency of the aforesaid need, the NEDA Board passed a resolution providing for the reforms in the financing of the water supply and sewerage sector and the creation of an Oversight Committee for the purpose of coordinating and overseeing the implementation of said financing reforms in the Philippine water supply and sewerage sector;

**WHEREAS**, the implementation of the recommended reforms requires the LWUA, as the focal government agency for financing and institutional development of local WDs, refocus its objectives and rationalize its operation;

**WHEREAS**, by virtue of Executive Order 123, s. of 2002, the regulation of tariffs of WDs will be undertaken by the National Water Resources Board (NWRB) with a proviso that LWUA, consistent with its mandate under PD 198, may continue reviewing the tariff of WDs in which it has financial exposure with the end view of ensuring their financial viability.

**WHEREAS**, the LWUA is currently attached to the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) by virtue of Executive Order No. 124, s. of 1987;

**WHEREAS**, rationalization of LWUA's operations require closer policy and program coordination with the Office of the President (OP);

**WHEREAS**, under Section 31, Chapter 10, Book III of Executive Order No. 292 or the Administrative Code of 1987, the President, in order to achieve simplicity, economy and efficiency, has continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of agencies under it;

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NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**PART I**  
**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**SECTION 1. *Reform Objectives/Policies*** – All concerned government agencies and instrumentalities of the water supply and sewerage sector, including but not limited to the Department of Finance (DOF), the Municipal Finance Corporation (MFC), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Budget and Management (DBM), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), DPWH, National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), LWUA, and the GFIs are hereby directed to pursue and implement the following reform objectives/policies in the water supply and sewerage sector:

- (a) Improvement of investor confidence in the water supply and sewerage sector;
- (b) Rationalization in the allocation of scarce financial resources in the water supply and sewerage sector through classification and graduation initiatives;
- (c) Freedom of choice of water service providers in sourcing financing;
- (d) Increase in the participation of LGUs, GFIs, and PFIs in the financing of the water supply and sewerage sector;
- (e) Stimulation of improved service and creation of financial self-sustainability for water service providers;
- (f) Encouragement of initiatives aimed at self-sufficiency of water service providers, including, but not limited to, amalgamation, private sector participation, cost-recovery tariffs, and resource pooling;
- (g) Grant of incentives for the improvement and graduation of water service providers;
- (h) Education of consumers towards treating water as a scarce economic good; and
- (i) Establishment of an independent economic regulator for the water supply and sewerage sector.

**SEC. 2. *Definition of Terms*** – For purposes of this Order, the term:

- (a) Water Service Providers (WSPs) – refer to local water utilities such as WDs, LGU-run water utilities, rural waterworks and sanitation associations, barangay waterworks and sanitation associations, regardless of location.
  - (b) Amalgamation – refers to the consolidation, joint operation or annexation of two or more WSPs resulting into a water district.
  - (c) Classification – refers to the categorization of WSPs into non-creditworthy, pre-creditworthy, semi-creditworthy or creditworthy to determine proper allocation of financing.
  - (d) Cost Recovery Tariff – is the tariff required to cover capital and operation and maintenance costs of WSPs at all service levels.
  - (e) Creditworthy WSPs – are financially self-sustaining WSPs and capable of accessing financing from GFIs and/or PFIs.
  - (f) Government Financial Institutions (GFIs) – refer to the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP), Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) and other financing institutions owned and controlled by the Government.
-

- (g) Graduation – refers to the progression of a WSP from semi-creditworthy to creditworthy status or of a non-credit worthy to pre-creditworthy or of a pre-creditworthy WSP to semi-creditworthy status based on improvements in financial and operational indicators.
- (h) Local Government Units (LGUs) – refer to the territorial and political subdivisions of the Philippines, consisting of provinces, cities, municipalities and barangays.
- (i) Non-Creditworthy WSPs – refer to WSPs with potential to reach pre-creditworthy status in the medium-term, based on relevant financial and operational indicators set by the Oversight Committee.
- (j) Pre-Creditworthy WSPs – refer to WSPs which are not likely to become creditworthy in the medium-term due to performance issues but can demonstrate the potential for creditworthiness in the long-term, based on relevant financial and operational indicators set by the Oversight Committee.
- (k) Semi-Creditworthy WSPs – refer to WSPs with the demonstrated ability to achieve creditworthiness in the short-term, based on relevant financial and operational indicators set by the Oversight Committee, but either lack the full criteria for creditworthiness or do not meet the criteria consistently.

## PART II OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

**SEC. 3. *Oversight Committee*** - An inter-agency Oversight Committee is hereby constituted for purposes of coordinating and overseeing the implementation of the reforms in the financing, graduation and regulatory policies in the water supply and sewerage sector.

**SEC. 4. *Composition*** - The composition of the Oversight Committee shall be as follows:

|            |   |                                                    |
|------------|---|----------------------------------------------------|
| Chair      | : | Department of Finance (DOF)                        |
| Vice-Chair | : | National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) |
| Members    | : | Department of Budget and Management (DBM)          |
|            |   | Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) |
|            |   | Office of the President (OP)                       |
|            |   | Local Water Utilities Administration (LWUA)        |

Designated representatives of DOF, NEDA, DBM, DILG and OP must preferably be of Undersecretary level. LWUA must be represented by its Administrator.

GFI and the Municipal Development Fund Office (MDFO) may serve as resource persons during meetings of the Oversight Committee.

**SEC. 5. *Functions*** - The Oversight Committee shall, among others:

- (a) Formulate the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of this Order;
- (b) Review the rationalization plan to be submitted by LWUA pursuant to Section 9 of this Order and submit its recommendations on said plan to the President for approval;
- (c) Review the criteria for the classification of WSPs, recommended by the Water Development Group (WDG) of LWUA;

- (d) Review the classification of WSPs prepared by LWUA-WDG, duly certified by LWUA-Head that the same is in accordance with the criteria presented to and reviewed by the Oversight Committee. The Oversight Committee may subject the classification of the WSPs to audit;
- (e) Prepare an action plan for the reforms in the financing policies in the water supply and sewerage sector for the near term and the medium term including incentive schemes that appropriate agencies may consider to offer to GFIs and PFIs to encourage such institutions to lend to WSPs;
- (f) Prepare and submit quarterly reports to the agency to which LWUA is attached; and
- (g) Review the charter of LWUA and when necessary, propose amendments thereto.

The Oversight Committee shall immediately organize itself and set its policies and procedures to facilitate the implementation of the said reforms in the water supply and sewerage sector.

**SEC. 6. *Technical Secretariat*** - The Oversight Committee shall establish a Technical Secretariat under DOF to be staffed by personnel assigned by government agencies comprising it. It shall serve as the official repository of all data concerning the classification and evaluation of all WSPs.

**SEC. 7. *Expenses*** - Members of the Oversight Committee and its Technical Secretariat shall be entitled to receive honoraria and/or reimbursement of expenses as may be allowed subject to availability of funds and prevailing rules and regulations.

### PART III LOCAL WATER UTILITIES ADMINISTRATION

**SEC. 8. *Transfer to OP*** - The LWUA, presently attached to the DPWH, is hereby attached to OP until such time it is transferred to DOF as provided for under Section 10 hereof. In addition, the LWUA Board of Trustees (BOT) shall include representatives from the agency to which it is attached.

**SEC. 9. *Rationalization of LWUA's organizational structure and operations*** - LWUA, subject to applicable laws and regulations, is hereby directed to review its organizational structure and internal policies and programs, rationalize its operation and refocus its objectives to include other WSPs, whenever feasible or applicable to facilitate implementation of and conform with the policies enunciated in this Order. To this extent, LWUA shall constitute and designate from its current organizational set-up, a Water Development Group (WDG), a Water Development Financier (WDF) and a Technical Assistance Group (TAG), or similar structures, with functions and responsibilities as follows:

**A. Water Development Group (WDG)**

The WDG shall have the following responsibilities:

- (a) The WDG which shall be primarily charged with the continuation of LWUA's current institutional development services aimed at graduating WSPs, as well as the classification of WSPs.
- (b) The WDG shall classify the WSPs into either creditworthy, semi-creditworthy, pre-creditworthy or non-creditworthy for the purpose of determining the appropriate sources of financing. WSPs initially classified by WDG as creditworthy and/or non-creditworthy shall be subject to further review by the Oversight Committee pursuant to Section 5 of this Order.

WSPs classified as semi-creditworthy and pre-creditworthy and non-credit worthy shall be subject to periodic review by the WDG at least once every three (3) years for purposes of reclassification. At their own instance, WSPs may request the WDG for an annual reclassification review.

- (c) Graduation – The WDG shall develop a graduation plan for non-credit worthy, pre-creditworthy and semi-creditworthy WSPs based on the following graduation initiatives:
- (i) Cost Recovery Tariff Initiatives – These are initiatives aimed at achieving widespread full cost recovery tariffs in the long-term. The initiatives shall include the inventory of non-creditworthy, semi-creditworthy and pre-creditworthy WSPs to determine the degree to which tariffs are sufficient to accumulate at least a minimal reserve for collateral or counterpart equity. In addition, should the LGUs invest in WSPs, they should be allowed recovery of and some minimal return on its investment.
  - (ii) Amalgamation and Private Sector Participation Initiatives – These are initiatives aimed at achieving economies of scale and efficiency of service through the use of identified amalgamation and private sector participation techniques based on technical, geographical, economic and other indicators.

LWUA shall develop the necessary guidelines during the transition period for the amalgamated WDs and LGUs.

- (iii) Management Structure and Governance – These initiatives pertain to institutional improvements within the WSPs' structure leading to greater accountability and improved service.
- (iv) LGU/WSP Resource Coordination for Credit Enhancement – This refers to the pooling of resources between semi-creditworthy and/or pre-creditworthy or semi-creditworthy and/or non-creditworthy WSPs and the relevant LGUs in their service areas to finance water supply and sewerage projects or create the collateral needed to borrow from GFIs and PFIs.
- (v) Education - This refers to communication and information initiatives on the benefits of graduation initiatives including cost recovery tariffs, amalgamation, private sector participation and LGU/WSP resource coordination.
- (vi) Technical Assistance to non-credit worthy and pre-creditworthy WSPs – This refers to technical assistance to support graduation initiatives which may be given with or without charge within a value threshold that may be determined by LWUA-WDG.

LWUA-WDG shall monitor the implementation of the graduation plan and evaluate the effectiveness of the graduation initiatives undertaken by the semi-creditworthy, pre-creditworthy and non-creditworthy WSPs.

LWUA-WDG shall initially cover the classification and graduation plan and initiatives of WDs. It may also cover other WSPs as deemed applicable or feasible.

- (d) Reporting – LWUA-WDG shall prepare and submit quarterly reports on its activities to the Oversight Committee and DOF.

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**B. Water Development Financier (WDF)**

The WDF shall have the following responsibilities:

- (a) The WDF which shall be primarily tasked to enhance and/or strengthen LWUA's lending functions and evaluate the applications for financial assistance.
- (b) Re-orientation Towards Banking Principles - LWUA, through the WDF, shall enhance and/or strengthen its lending policies and functions to carry out and implement its mandate to provide financing particularly to non-credit worthy, pre-creditworthy and semi-creditworthy WDs, grounded on sound development banking principles. To this effect, LWUA shall adopt development banking principles which cater to the financing needs of WSPs and shall develop its own procedures for the monitoring of its loan portfolio. LWUA shall develop lending policies and guidelines in pursuit of the policies and principles espoused under this Executive Order within 90 days from its effectivity and submit the same to the Oversight Committee. LWUA shall conduct its operation, in a transparent, efficient and effective manner.
- (c) Strengthening of Collection Function - In the exercise of its lending functions, LWUA shall also strengthen its collection function from WDs as well as enhance its payment of loans to LWUA creditors. To this effect, all collections arising from LWUA's receivables shall constitute a special fund to be apportioned between debt servicing of LWUA loans and the additional funding necessary to support the LWUA's graduation and technical assistance functions under the WDG and the TAG.
- (d) Segregation of LWUA Loan Portfolios – For purposes of identification and administrative efficiency, LWUA shall maintain separate accounting, payment and collection systems for existing loans and loans to be granted henceforth pursuant to the reforms instituted in this Executive Order.

**C. Technical Assistance Group (TAG)**

TAG shall have the following responsibilities:

- (a) TAG shall continue LWUA's program of providing technical assistance to WSPs, in accordance with the proceeding sections.
- (b) TAG shall extend project-related technical assistance to GFIs and creditworthy WSPs on a competitive basis, consistent with applicable laws, rules and regulations on government procurement.
- (c) Above a certain value threshold, which threshold shall be determined by LWUA, TAG shall extend project-related technical assistance to semi-creditworthy WSPs on a competitive basis, consistent with applicable laws, rules and regulations on government procurement.
- (d) LWUA-TAG shall extend project-related assistance to non-creditworthy and pre-creditworthy WDs which may be with or without charge within a certain value threshold to be determined by LWUA to support projects funded by LWUA-WDF.

**SEC. 10.** Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Order, LWUA shall review its current structure and submit its rationalized plan to the Oversight Committee, consistent with the policy reforms enunciated under this Order. The Oversight Committee shall evaluate the rationalization plan within thirty (30) days from receipt. LWUA, with the endorsement of the Oversight Committee, shall submit the rationalization plan to the President for final approval.

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Upon approval by the President of the reforms in the water supply and sewerage sector, including the rationalized organization and manpower structure of LWUA, LWUA shall then be transferred to DOF. Pursuant to Section 51 of PD 198, at least three (3) of the trustees must be employees of the National Government. DOF shall always be represented in the LWUA-BOT.

#### PART IV FINANCING POLICIES

**SEC. 11. *Responsibility of LGUs*** – In line with the principle of devolution of the provision of basic services under the Local Government Code, LGUs shall be encouraged to provide delivery of water supply and sewerage services through, but not limited to, investments in, or loans to WSPs. LGUs shall as a general policy, be financially and operationally responsible for the WSPs within their respective jurisdictions.

**SEC.12. *Sources of Financing*** - The sources of financing for the water supply and sewerage sector shall be as follows:

- (a) Creditworthy WSPs shall be eligible to source financing at commercial lending rates from GFIs and PFIs. Pursuant thereto, LWUA, with respect to creditworthy WDs shall enhance and streamline its waiver procedures to effect the reform objectives/policies enunciated herein. GFIs shall strengthen their skills base and develop lending programs specially tailored to the needs of the water supply and sewerage sector.
- (b) Semi-creditworthy WDs shall be eligible to source concessional debt financing from the LWUA-WDF, as well as GFIs and PFIs when possible.
- (c) Pre-creditworthy WDs shall be eligible to source grants from donors and deep concessional financing from the LWUA-WDF.
- (d) Non-creditworthy WDs shall continue to be eligible for financing under the LWUA-WDF. However, LGUs are hereby encouraged to provide financial and operational support for such WDs and other WSPs within their respective jurisdictions. DILG and MDFO shall provide the necessary technical and financial support within their respective mandates.
- (e) WSPs, including eligible WDs, can access financing from GFIs, PFIs, MDFO, and LGUs, whenever possible.

LWUA-WDG shall provide the necessary incentives for graduation such as extension of greater flexibility in WD's operation as a WD graduate from one stage to the next. LWUA-WDG shall provide guidelines to encourage graduation, which shall be approved by LWUA-BOT for submission to the Oversight Committee.

**SEC. 13. *Role of Financial Institution*** – The classification of WSPs shall merely be a determinant of eligibility for the various sources of financing, and shall not in any way be construed as an outright guarantee of actual financing from the designated source.

#### PART V FINAL PROVISIONS

**SEC. 14.** The Oversight Committee shall formulate the IRR of this Order within 90 days from its effectivity, which shall be published in accordance with the requirements of the Administrative Code of 1987 and other pertinent laws.



**SEC. 15.** The Oversight Committee shall cease to exist three (3) years after the approval by the President of the rationalized organization and manpower structure of LWUA, with any remaining function of the Committee to be assumed by the DOF.

**SEC. 16.** Any violation of this Order and of its IRR shall be subject to disciplinary action and other penalties as provided for in said IRR and other relevant laws and issuances.

**SEC. 17.** If any provision of this Order is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

**SEC. 18.** All orders, executive issuances, rules and regulations, administrative resolutions, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 19.** This Order shall take effect upon its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

**DONE**, in the City of Manila, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of FEB, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 279-A**  
**AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 279**

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 279 dated 2 February 2004 instituted reforms in the financing policies for the water supply and sewerage sector and water services providers and provided for the rationalization of the organization structure of the Local Water Utilities Administration (LWUA) and operations in support thereof;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 31, Chapter 10, Book III of Executive Order No. 292 or the Administrative Code of 1987, the President has continuing authority to recognize the administrative structure of agencies under it;

**WHEREAS**, investment in clean water is an integral part of investment in health;

**NOW, THEREFORE I, GLORIA M. ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SEC. 1. Transfer to the Department of Health** – The LWUA is hereby attached to the Department of Health. The LWUA Board of Trustees, however, shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines.

**SEC. 2.** All orders, executive issuances, rules and regulations, administrative resolutions, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 3.** This order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of August, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eight.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **EDUARDO R. ERMITA**  
Executive Secretary

*Source: Malacañang Records Office*

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2008). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 280**  
**DEFINING THE POWERS, FUNCTIONS, AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF GOVERNMENT**  
**AGENCIES IN RESPONSE TO AVIAN INFLUENZA (AI) OR BIRD FLU VIRUS AND RELATED**  
**MATTERS THERETO**

**WHEREAS**, due to an outbreak of Avian Influenza (AI), otherwise referred to as the Bird Flu virus, which has affected many countries in Asia, including the deaths of at least twelve people in Vietnam and Thailand, bold, preemptive, active and immediate measures must be taken by the Philippines in order to avert or minimize its grave effects;

**WHEREAS**, in the event the epidemic can no longer be prevented and in order to confine, minimize, restrict, or regulate the further spread of the contagion, such measures and actions relative to fowl, poultry, other birds or animals and people, infected or suspected to be infected with the virus need to be implemented;

**WHEREAS**, Article II, Section 15 of the Constitution provides that the State shall protect and promote the health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

**WHEREAS**, from past experiences with the SARS virus, effective prevention and containment procedures, guidelines, and strict implementation contributed to the success of the Philippines in minimizing the effects and mortality of said virus;

**NOW , THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby direct and order that:

**SECTION 1. *Crisis Manager.*** – The Secretary of Health is hereby designated Over-all Crisis Manager for the Avian Influenza or Bird Flu Virus pandemic influenza.

The Department of Agriculture, through the Secretary of Agriculture, is hereby designated as Co-Manager for matters pertaining or primarily affecting poultry, birds, other fowl, and any other animal, including their by-products.

**Sec 2. *Delineation of Powers and Authority.*** – The Secretary of Health is hereby granted and bestowed such powers and authority as would be necessary in order to prevent, restrict, or otherwise regulate the entry, movement, or surveillance of people coming from infected countries or in any instance where the highly pathogenic avian influenza has infected, or suspected to have infected, humans.

The Secretary of Agriculture is hereby granted and bestowed such powers and functions as would be necessary in order to contain, control, prevent, regulate and otherwise restrict the entry, movement, proliferation, of poultry, fowl, birds, and other animals, including their by-products, which are infected, or suspected to be, infected or potential carrier of the Avian influenza virus.

**Sec. 3. *The Secretary of Health: Specific Area of Concern and Responsibility.*** - The Secretary of Health shall exercise such powers and prerogatives, incidental or otherwise, as would:

- 
- a. Prevent, minimize, regulate, or otherwise restrict the entry of the avian flu virus, through the Bureau of Quarantine and International Health Services (BQIHS), by adopting, restricting, or regulating the movement and entry of people coming from infected countries or other countries suspected to be carriers, or potential carriers, of the virus, through a system of surveillance methods utilizing rigid screening and identification procedures in all ports of entry, and adopting isolation and quarantine measures whenever deemed necessary;
  - b. Prevent, minimize and regulate the spread and local transmission of the virus through enforcement of triage, contact tracing, surveillance, quarantine and isolation procedures of people, as may be appropriate;
  - c. Care, render assistance, cure, or minimize death or sickness through effective clinical management of people, resources, hospitals, and other facilities, whether public or private;

The Secretary of Health shall also exercise such other functions and powers as may be incidental, related or otherwise connected with the above mentioned authority.

**Sec. 4. *The Secretary of Agriculture: Specific Area of Concern and Responsibility.*** - The Secretary of Agriculture shall take such measures and actions as would:

- a. Prevent, Restrict, minimize or otherwise regulate the entry of poultry, fowl, birds, or other animals coming from infected countries or from any other country which are potential or suspected to be, afflicted or carriers of the avian flu virus, including the imposition of total or partial bans on imports of poultry and other animals;
- b. Conduct surveillance, mapping, identification, isolation, quarantine of chickens, their by-products, and other animals infected or suspected to be infected by the avian flu virus within the country, or any part thereof, including the culling or stamping out of infected chickens and quarantine of chicken or poultry farms and other affected areas, as may be determined by the Secretary.
- c. Monitor, trace, plot, or otherwise observe, in coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the sanctuaries and movement patterns of migratory birds from within and without the country taking into consideration the safety and well being of the people and giving due regard to nature.

The Secretary of Agriculture shall also exercise such other functions and powers as may be incidental, related or otherwise connected with the above mentioned authority.

**Sec. 5. *Information Dissemination and Coordination.*** – As Crisis Manager, the Secretary of Health shall have the responsibility to:

- a. Continuously educate and disseminate information, as appropriate, in order to prepare and educate the media and the general public with a better understanding of the avian flu virus, promote positive health values and behavior, and prevent disinformation, confusion, or panic;
  - b. Coordinate responses together with other government agencies and the private sector through meetings, conferences and the like; or otherwise constructively engage the public and affected sectors in general;
  - c. Issue the necessary bulletins, advisories and health warnings on matters concerning the foregoing.
-

**Sec. 6. Assistance and Support.** – The Over-All Crisis Manager is hereby empowered to call upon all agencies of Government for support and assistance in the enforcement of this Order, including but not necessarily limited to the:

Department of Agriculture (DA)  
Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG);  
Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA);  
Department of Transportation and Communications (DoTC);  
Department of Finance (DoF);  
Department of Education (DepEd);  
Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE);  
Department of National defense (DND);  
Office of the Press Secretary (OPS);

The Crisis Manager shall be empowered to seek the assistance and support of the abovementioned agencies, including their respective attached offices, in order to effectively implement the provisions of this Order.

All agencies, offices, managers, and personnel are hereby directed to cooperate and provide such assistance and support as may be requested or needed by the Crisis Manager in the containment of the Avian flu virus.

Defense and law enforcement agencies, particularly the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), shall give priority to the directives or orders issued and promulgated by the Crisis Manager affecting their specific areas of concern.

**Sec. 7. Funding.** – An amount not exceeding Two Hundred Fifty Million (P 250,000,000.00) Pesos is hereby set aside from the funds of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) to cover the financial requirements of this Order.

**Sec. 8. Rules and Regulations.** – The Secretary of Health shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary, related, incidental or consistent with the purpose, intent, and objective of this Order.

**Sec. 9. Applicability of Executive Order No. 201.** – For purposes of this Order and in so far as it may be practicable, the provisions of Order No. 201, series of 2003, shall be deemed suppletory hereto.

**Sec. 10. Constitutionality.** – Should any of the provisions contained herein be declared illegal or unconstitutional, the rest or other such provisions not so declared shall remain valid and effective.

**Sec. 11. Effectivity.** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 5th day of February, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 281**  
**PROVIDING FOR DEFERMENT OF EVICTION, FORECLOSURE AND CANCELLATION**  
**OF HOUSING ACCOUNTS AND THE FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF**  
**AFFORDABLE LOAN RESTRUCTURING PROGRAMS DURING SUCH DEFERMENT PERIOD**

**WHEREAS**, the economic crisis has affected the paying capacity of housing loan member borrowers in the low income group, resulting in a large number of them being delinquent in paying their monthly amortizations;

**WHEREAS**, there is need to give temporary relief to the affected borrowers for them to be able to work-out solutions to keep their homes.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** Deferment of Eviction, Foreclosure and Cancellation of Housing Accounts. There shall be a deferment of eviction, foreclosure and cancellation of housing accounts for a period of six (6) months from date hereof.

**SEC. 2.** Coverage. This deferment shall cover all delinquent housing loan accounts for cancellation and foreclosure, foreclosed accounts and consolidated accounts with all government agencies and institutions under the National Shelter Program (NSP), such as the National Home Mortgage Finance Corporation (NHMFC), Home Development Mutual Fund (HDMF), Government Service Insurance Corporation (GSIS), and Social Security System (SSS).

**SEC. 3.** Exclusions. However, this Order shall not apply to the following:

- a. unoccupied housing units
- b. accounts with no single payment since take-out
- c. restructured accounts
- d. consolidated accounts which were already disposed through sale or rent-to-own scheme
- e. accounts covered by Developers Buyback Guarantee

**SEC. 4.** Implementation of Affordable Loan Restructuring Program (ALRP). The concerned agencies and institutions shall review their existing loan restructuring programs and remedial measures with the end in view of adopting affordable schemes and remedies with terms and conditions that borrowers will be able to comply with.

The revised ALRP shall be offered to borrowers for availment within fifteen (15) days from date hereof.

**SEC. 5.** Creation of an Inter-Agency Task Force. An Inter-Agency Task Force shall be created composed of the following:

---

|          |   |                          |
|----------|---|--------------------------|
| Chairman | - | Secretary General, HUDCC |
| Members  | - | President, NHMFC         |
|          |   | President, HDMF          |
|          |   | President, GSIS          |
|          |   | President, SSS           |

The Task Force shall invite representatives from the Senate Committee on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement and the House Committee on Housing and Urban Development to its meetings.

The Task Force shall formulate the implementing rules and regulations of this Order and the Affordable Loan Restructuring Program within fifteen (15) days from date of this Order.

The Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC) shall monitor the compliance by the concerned agencies with this Order.

**SEC. 6.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of **February**, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 282**  
**DIRECTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ASSET DISPOSITION PROGRAM**  
**FOR THE EXISTING ILOILO AIRPORT**

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) is the primary policy, planning, programming, coordinating, implementing, regulating agency of the Executive branch in the promotion, development and regulation of dependable and coordinated networks of transportation and communication systems;

**WHEREAS**, the Air Transportation Office (ATO) was created by virtue of Executive Order No. 125 on 04 April 1987 with the responsibility of planning, designing and securing funds for the construction of airports within the country under the supervision and control of the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC);

**WHEREAS**, the existing Iloilo airport will be replaced with a new facility in a new site, and for this purpose, the New Iloilo Airport Development Project (the “Project”) funded with a loan from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), will be implemented by DOTC;

**WHEREAS**, the DOTC and ATO deem it beneficial to consider and evaluate alternatives on the disposition of the existing airport/site to achieve its optimum value;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order;

**SECTION 1. *Establishment of Asset Disposition Program (ADP) for the DOTC/ATO*** – There is hereby created an Asset Disposition Program for the DOTC/ATO. Such program shall be managed by an inter-agency task force under the direction of the DOTC, and shall be composed of:

|                |                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chairman:      | Undersecretary for Air Section/Staff Services<br>Department of Transportation and Communications                                                                                                             |
| Vice-Chairman: | Assistant Secretary<br>Air Transportation Office                                                                                                                                                             |
| Members:       | Representative from the Department of Finance<br>Representative from the Department of Justice<br>Representative from the Department of Budget and Management<br>Head of the Local Government Unit concerned |

The representatives from the national government agencies aforementioned must at least be an Assistant Secretary.

**Sec. 2. *Coverage*.** The ADP established under this Order shall have specific responsibilities over the disposition of the existing Iloilo Airport.

**Sec. 3. *Function and Authority of the ADP*.** The ADP shall study and evaluate the plan of action and handle the process for the sale or disposition of the existing Iloilo Airport.



**Sec. 4. *Utilization of Proceeds.*** The proceeds of the sale or disposition of the existing Iloilo airport/site shall be utilized in accordance with applicable laws and regulations and following the guidelines of the Department of Finance.

**Sec. 5. *Term of ADP*** - The ADP shall continue to exist until the purpose for which it was created has been achieved.

**Sec. 6. *Effectivity*** - This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**Done**, in the City of Manila this **17th** day of **Feb.**, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

**Source: Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 283**  
**CREATING A MADRASAH DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Article 2, Section 17 and Article XIV, Section 2(4) of the Constitution, the State is mandated to encourage non-formal, informal and indigenous learning systems, as well as self-learning, independent, and out-of-school programs, particularly those that respond to community needs;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine Muslim community operates indigenous and burgeoning educational institutions called *madrasahs* that complement the educational system of the national government;

**WHEREAS**, further *madrasah* development is hampered by resource constraints, impeding the system's realization of its potential as a viable complementary educational system for Muslim Filipinos;

**WHEREAS**, grants, loans, donations and other endowments from bilateral or multilateral institutions are available for *madrasah* development as support for the education of Muslim Filipinos;

**WHEREAS**, a mechanism to allow the local *madrasah* system to take full advantage of these development opportunities will provide more educational opportunities for Muslim Filipinos;

**WHEREAS**, the provision of adequate educational opportunities for Muslim Filipinos shall tremendously contribute to the sustainability of the government's efforts to enhance lasting peace and equitable development in Mindanao.

**NOW THEREFORE I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**Section 1. Creation of the Madrasah Development Coordinating Committee.** There is hereby created the Madrasah Development Coordinating Committee (MDCC), hereinafter referred to as the Committee, which shall be responsible for the effective management of available financial assistance to the *madrasah system* from local, bilateral and multilateral institutions, including activities related thereto.

**Section 2. Composition of Committee.** The Committee shall be composed of the Executive Director, Office on Muslim Affairs (OMA) as Chairman, the Presidential Assistant for Education (PAE) as Co-Chairman, and representatives to be designated by the President, from the Departments of Education (DepEd), and the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the Mindanao Economic Development Council (MEDCo), the Technical Skills Development Authority (TESDA), as members. Two (2) representatives from the *madrasah* education system shall also be appointed by the President as members of the Committee.

**Section 3. Committee Advisory Council.** An MDCC Advisory Council is hereby created to perform oversight functions over the Committee, to be composed of representatives from the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP), the Office of the Governor, Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA), the Official Development Assistance (ODA) Office and two (2) representatives from the *madrasah* academe. All representatives shall be appointed by the President.

**Section 4. Functions of the Committee.** The Committee shall have the following functions:

- 4.1 Identify possible sources of and receive financial assistance for *madrasah* development;
- 4.2 Promulgate standard procedures for the judicious management/use/distribution/disposition of these assistance opportunities;
- 4.3 Endorse noteworthy proposals for funding to relevant local/bilateral/multilateral institutions;
- 4.4 Coordinate madrasah-related researches, studies and programs/projects undertaken by government, or private individuals/institutions;
- 4.5 Fasttrack and monitor the implementation of government education programs in Mindanao vis-à-vis the Comprehensive Mindanao Education Program and/or the *Edukasyon para sa Kapayapaan at Kaunlaran sa Mindanao* Program; and
- 4.6 Submit a quarterly report of its activities and accomplishments to the President and to the MDCC Advisory Council.

**Section 5. Committee Meetings.** The Committee shall meet at least once every three months, or as often as necessary in the pursuit of its functions. Attendance to meetings of respective members of the MDCC and the Advisory Council shall be charged to their respective agency budgets.

**Section 6. Funding.** An initial fund of P1,000,000 from the President's Contingent Fund is hereby allocated for the operations of the MDCC during its first year. Funds for operations in subsequent years shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

**Section 7. Relation to ARMM Government.** This Order does not preclude the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) from establishing a similar system, pursuant to relevant provisions of Republic Act (RA) No. 9054.

**Section 8. Relation to DepEd, CHED and TESDA.** The MDCC shall not interfere with the regular programs and monitoring functions of the DepEd, CHED and TESDA.

**Section 9. Repeal Clause.** All executive issuances, orders, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with any provision of this Order are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**Section 10. Effectivity.** This Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 18TH day of February, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: Malacañang Records Office

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 284**

**PRESCRIBING RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF  
THE CIVILIAN FACULTY OF THE PHILIPPINE MILITARY ACADEMY AND UPDATING ITS  
FACULTY MERIT SYSTEM.**

WHEREAS, the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) is an institution created by the National Defense Act;

WHEREAS, the PMA is both a military training institution and a college under the control and supervision of the Department of National Defense;

WHEREAS, as an educational institution, it has the authority to grant a baccalaureate degree on its graduates;

WHEREAS, over the years, the increase in the number of cadets has necessitated the hiring of civilian instructors to augment the military officers comprising the faculty;

WHEREAS, the civilian faculty are appointed, ranked and promoted according to the Faculty Merit System, approved by the Civil Service Commission in 1993, and are compensated according to Republic Act No. 6758, the Salary Standardization Law;

WHEREAS, the lowest academic rank (Instructor I) under the Faculty Merit System has been assigned Salary Grade (SG) 12 with a corresponding monthly salary of P11,167.00 as provided by the Salary Standardization Law;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9166 (An Act Promoting the Welfare of the AFP by Increasing the Rate of Base Pay and Other Benefits of its Officers and Enlisted Personnel and for Other Purposes) signed on 07 June 2002 has increased the monthly base salary of a PMA cadet to P14,538.00 effective 01 January 2004 thereby making a cadet's monthly salary higher than that of an Instructor I, Instructor II, Instructor III, Assistant Professor I and Assistant Professor II whose monthly salaries are P11,167.00, P11,837.00, P12,546.00, P13,300.00 and P14,098.00, respectively.

WHEREAS, existing laws, rules and regulations constrain the PMA from resolving this unfavorable predicament of the PMA civilian faculty;

WHEREAS, such a situation violates the basic principles of fairness and equity in the determination of pay and results in demoralization and decreased productivity which may compromise the effective and efficient achievement of the PMA's mission;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**Section 1. Recruitment, Selection and Appointment of Civilian Faculty** – The Philippine Military Academy shall maintain and update its Faculty Merit System in accordance with the policies and guidelines issued herein:

a) Recruitment – The applicant should have the appropriate training and experience in the subject of field of discipline he is applying for;

b) Selection – The applicant shall undergo a stringent selection process composed of two levels of interviews, teaching demonstration, physical and neuro-psychological examination, and background investigation prior to his appointment as a member of the civilian faculty; and

c) Appointment – The PMA Superintendent shall initially appoint the applicant as a faculty member on a contractual basis to a faculty rank determined according to the Criteria for Evaluation used by other state universities and colleges (SUCs), higher education institutions (HEIs) and technical education institutions (TEIs). After one year of satisfactory service, such faculty member may be recommended for regular/permanent appointment.

**Section 2. Utilization of Civilian Faculty** – Civilian faculty shall be employed primarily as instructors of the cadets. However, they may also be assigned other collateral duties such as researchers, speechwriters, academic advisers for the cadets, advisers of cadet organizations, administrative officers of the academic departments and the Department of Physical Education and other similar duties to meet the exigencies of the service.

**Section 3. Performance Appraisal of Civilian Faculty** – The performance of the faculty shall be evaluated every term. The performance rating shall be a composite of the ratings of the cadets, peers, and department heads. Civilian faculty members who get an outstanding performance evaluation for the semester shall be given appropriate recognition. Getting two consecutive unsatisfactory ratings shall be considered as a ground for the termination of employment of a faculty member or shall subject the concerned faculty member to sanction(s) imposed by the PMA after due process.

**Section 4. Promotion of Civilian Faculty** – Faculty ranks shall be determined based on the Criteria for Evaluation. Civilian faculty who satisfy the points required by a next higher academic rank may be promoted and have their existing faculty ranks reclassified for the appropriate higher rank provided they meet all of the following conditions: (1) at least “Very Satisfactory” performance ratings for the last two rating periods; (2) earn a minimum of 8.0 points in the Department Head’s Assessment Potential; and (3) earn a minimum of 60 points in the Interview Assessment of Personality Traits and Characteristics.

The point allocation for academic ranks shall be as follows:

| <u>Faculty rank</u> | <u>Sub-rank</u> | <u>Salary Grade</u> | <u>Point Bracket</u> |
|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Instructor          | I               | 12                  | 65 below             |
|                     | II              | 13                  | 66 – 76              |
|                     | III             | 14                  | 77 – 87              |
| Assistant Professor | I               | 15                  | 88 – 96              |
|                     | II              | 16                  | 97 – 105             |
|                     | III             | 17                  | 106 – 114            |
|                     | IV              | 18                  | 115 – 123            |
| Associate Professor | I               | 19                  | 124 – 130            |
|                     | II              | 20                  | 131 – 137            |
|                     | III             | 21                  | 138 – 144            |
|                     | IV              | 22                  | 145 – 151            |
|                     | V               | 23                  | 152 – 158            |
| Professor           | I               | 24                  | 159 – 164            |
|                     | II              | 25                  | 165 – 170            |
|                     | III             | 26                  | 171 – 176            |
|                     | IV              | 27                  | 177 – 182            |

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|                              |    |    |           |
|------------------------------|----|----|-----------|
|                              | V  | 28 | 183 – 188 |
|                              | VI | 29 | 189 – 194 |
| College/University Professor |    | 30 | 195 – 200 |

There shall be created for this purpose a Promotion/Selection Board to be chaired by the Head, Academic Group and to be composed of three (3) department heads from the Socio-humanistic disciplines and three (3) from the Techno-scientific disciplines which shall submit its recommendations to higher authorities.

**Section 5. Faculty Development Programs** – The PMA shall institutionalize progressive faculty development programs which will enhance the competence, excellence, and professionalism among faculty members. These programs shall consist of scholarships for higher studies, in-house training, attendance in seminars, workshops, conventions, and enrollment in short courses, among others.

**Section 6. Salary and Benefits of Civilian Faculty –**

A. Salary – Civilian faculty shall be paid salaries appropriate to their ranks/salary grades in accordance with the Salary Standardization Law;

B. Benefits and Incentives

1. Instructor's Incentive Pay – An amount not to exceed twenty-five *per centum* (25%) of the monthly salary shall be given to civilian faculty members provided that they satisfy the aggregate minimum monthly instructional load of thirty (30) units per academic year. Civilian faculty shall only be entitled to the Instructor's Incentive Pay as long as they remain members of PMA's civilian faculty.
2. Civilian faculty shall be entitled to all other benefits accruing to their being government employees.

**Section 7. Discipline of Civilian Faculty** – No civilian faculty member shall be suspended or dismissed except for cause provided for by law and after due process. The provisions of the Faculty Manual, pertinent Rules and Regulations of the Command, and the Civil Service Law shall apply in proceedings against civilian faculty members.

**Section 8. Transitory Provision** – Civilian faculty members who do not possess the requisite master's degree at the time of the effectivity of this Executive Order shall be given five (5) years within which to comply with the requirement.

**Section 9. Source of Funding** – The amount involved to effect the adjusted salary grades of the civilian faculty shall be sourced from agency savings and thereafter shall be included in agency appropriations.

**Section 10. Effectivity** – These rules and regulations shall take effect upon approval.

Done in the City of Manila, this 18<sup>TH</sup> day of February, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 285**  
**DIRECTING THE RATIONALIZATION OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE GARMENTS AND**  
**TEXTILE EXPORT BOARD (GTEB)**

**WHEREAS**, by virtue of the Philippines' accession to the World Trade Organization, garments and textile export quotas will be totally eliminated by year 2005, paving the way for a quota-free trade in garments and textile;

**WHEREAS**, the major function of GTEB which is the negotiation, administration, allocation and monitoring of garments and textile export quota will correspondingly be phased-out;

**WHEREAS**, with the phasing-out of its major function 2005, where GTEB will be left with a residual function of developing and promoting garments and textile exports, there is a need to rationalize and streamline its operations;

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the government to maintain efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of public services by removing redundancies and eliminating/minimizing overlaps and duplication;

**WHEREAS**, Section 77 and 78 of the General Provisions of the General Appropriations Act (GAA) of 2003, as well as similar provisions of previous GAAs, give the President of the Philippines authority to direct changes in the organizational units of key positions in any department or agency;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. Rationalization of GTEB Operations and Organization.** The Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) is hereby ordered to rationalize the operations and organization of the GTEB. The rationalization should take into consideration the performance by the GTEB of its remaining regulatory functions pending the elimination of the textile export quotas and the transfer of its export promotion functions to appropriate units of the Department.

**SEC. 2. Deactivation of the GTEB by 2005.** The DTI Secretary shall prepare and implement a winding up plan for the deactivation of the GTEB by 2005.

**SEC. 3. Separation Package.** Personnel of the GTEB who may be affected by this effort shall be entitled to a separation benefit equivalent to two (2) months of their latest compensation for every year of service in the government, in addition to all gratuities and benefits to which they may be entitled under existing laws, rules and regulations. GTEB employees who avail of such privileges and opt to start their government service anew by being absorbed in the rationalized GTEB shall refund the government of the full amount of the separation benefits received.

**SEC. 4. Availability of the Separation Package.** The separation package herein authorized shall be available up to December 2004 to those whose positions are identified by the GTEB Chairman as critical in the performance of the remaining functions of the rationalized GTEB.

**SEC. 5. Personnel Related Movements.** All personnel-related movements resulting from the rationalization of the operations of the GTEB shall be implemented within CSC rules and regulations.



**SEC. 6. Funding.** Funding requirements for the separation package of GTEB employees under this Order shall be sourced from its income as reflected in its COA-submitted financial statements/reports as of December 31, 2002.

**SEC. 7. Compensation of GTEB Personnel after Rationalization.** GTEB personnel hired under the revised structure and staffing pattern of the agency shall receive the salary and other benefits in accordance with Republic Act No. 6758, otherwise known as the Salary Standardization Law.

**SEC. 8. Repealing Clause.** All executive orders, issuances orders, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 9. Separability Clause.** If any provision of this Executive Order shall be held unconstitutional, the remainder of the Order not otherwise affected shall remain in effect.

**SEC. 10. Effectivity.** This Executive Order takes effect 15 days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

**DONE**, in the City of Manila this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 285-A**  
AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 285 (S. 2004) DIRECTING THE RATIONALIZATION  
OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE GARMENTS AND TEXTILE EXPORT BOARD (GTEB)

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 285 dated February 23, 2004 directed the deactivation of the GTEB by 2005 by virtue of the abolition of quotas that GTEB was primarily tasked to administer;

**WHEREAS**, the same Executive Order directed the transfer of GTEB's residual functions to appropriate units of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI); and for the DTI Secretary to prepare and implement a winding up plan for the deactivation of the GTEB;

**WHEREAS**, while GTEB has to be deactivated, support services for the garments and textile sector have to be continued and strengthened through the DTI, given the evolving business and market realities resulting from globalization;

**WHEREAS**, GTEB, during its operations, realized earnings from quota fees and other services maintained in its corporate fund;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 45, Chapter 5, Book VI of the Administrative Code of 1987 as reiterated under Executive Order 431, a Permanent Committee has been constituted to supervise the Special Fund covering revenues of government entities;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to amend Executive Order No. 285 so as to clarify and insure proper and orderly disposition of GTEB's corporate funds after its deactivation;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** New sections are hereby added after Section 2 of Executive Order No. 285, to read as follows:

**"SECTION 2-A. - Disposition of GTEB's Corporate Funds.** A Special Fund shall be created out of the GTEB corporate funds subject to the review, evaluation, and appropriate resolve by the Permanent Committee (PC) constituted pursuant to Section 45, Chapter 5, Book VI of the Administrative Code of 1987, as reiterated under Executive Order No. 431.

**"SECTION 2-B. Purpose of the Fund.** The Special Fund shall be used by the DTI for programs of the garments and textile sector consistent with the Garments Industry Transformation Plan."

**SECTION 2.** All executive orders, issuances, administrative rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 3.** This Executive Order takes effect immediately upon its approval.

Done in the City of Manila, this 10th day of March, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Six.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) EDUARDO R. ERMITA  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2006). *[Executive Order Nos.: 201 - 300]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 286**  
**DIRECTING NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND OTHER CONCERNED AGENCIES**  
**TO ACTIVELY SUPPORT AND IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS ON THE “BRIGHT CHILD”**

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act 8980, “An Act Promulgating a Comprehensive Policy and a National System for Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD)”, states that it is the policy of the State to promote the rights of the child to survival, development, participation and special protection with full recognition of the nature of childhood and its special needs;

**WHEREAS**, the Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) System within the framework of Child 21 has an integrative program using complementary strategies that include service delivery for children from conception to age 6 years, educating parents and caregivers, encouraging active involvement of parents and communities and raising awareness about the quality of life for young children and families;

**WHEREAS**, the Council for the Welfare of Children/National Early Childhood Care and Development Coordinating Council (CWC/NECCDCC) is mandated to ensure the sustained inter-agency and multi-sectoral collaboration in program implementation at the national and local levels;

**WHEREAS**, there is need to intensify collaboration among government and non-governmental organizations, private sector, media, local and international agencies as well as families and communities in promoting the Child Friendly Movement by supporting the Bright Child.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION. 1. Support for the Bright Child Program.** – National Government agencies and other concerned offices are hereby directed to support and implement programs on the Bright Child.

The Bright Child refers to the delivery of a one-brand package of interventions on food and nutrition, health, early education and psychosocial programs for young children resulting in their optimum growth and development.

**SEC. 2. Management of the Bright Child.** - The Council for the Welfare of Children Coordinating Office shall manage the Bright Child and develop the mechanics of its implementation together with an Inter-Agency Technical Working Group consisting of the lead cooperating agencies mentioned in Sec. 3 hereof.

**SEC. 3. Lead Cooperating Agencies for the Bright Child.** - The Council for the Welfare of Children/National Early Childhood Care and Development Coordinating Council (NECCDCC) through its Co-chairpersons, the Secretaries of the Departments of Health, Social Welfare and Development, Education and the Interior and Local Government shall spearhead the development, promotion and delivery of the one-brand package of programs and interventions at national, regional, and local levels under the Bright Child, especially in nutritionally depressed municipalities.

**SEC. 4. Roles and Responsibilities.** - The lead agencies referred to above, together with all the Council members, and in partnership with local governments, communities and families, shall promote

the Bright Child by pursuing an integrated approach through convergence of services at home, at the community centers and in schools. Such services shall consist of the following, among others:

- a. pre and post natal care
- b. breastfeeding
- c. immunization
- d. growth monitoring and promotion
- e. nutrition education
- f. micronutrient supplementation
- g. complementary feeding/food assistance
- h. home and community food production
- i. home and center-based day care
- j. psychosocial care and development
- k. parent education
- l. early education
- m. healthy lifestyle

**SEC. 5. Assistance and Support.** - The CWC/NECCDCC may call upon any or all agencies/bureaus/offices of the government for assistance in the implementation of this Executive Order, including but not limited to the following:

- a. The Department of Agriculture and its relevant agencies to formulate and implement programs towards promoting food security particularly for the marginalized sectors such as farmers, fisherfolk, urban/rural poor;
- b. The Department of Labor and Employment and its relevant attached agencies to promote and support programs establishing workplace-base ECCD services including those conducive to pregnant and lactating mothers, supporting programs for child rights' education and enforcing laws against child labor;
- c. The Department of Justice and its relevant attached agencies to promote the rights of young children among the pillars of justice;
- d. The National Nutrition Council to advocate, promote and monitor proper nutrition;
- e. The National Economic and Development Authority to assist the NECCDCC in sourcing funds for the programs included in the Bright Child;
- f. The Food and Nutrition Research Institute to do periodic evaluation/assessment on the nutritionally depressed communities which are areas for the one-brand package of services;

Non-governmental organizations, civil society groups, academe, business, the private sector and international services are also encouraged to support the Bright Child through systems development, advocacy and promotion and networking. Parents of children and communities as beneficiaries of the program shall be involved through active participation in planning, implementation and sustenance of the program.

**SEC. 6. Funding.** The amount of P5 Million from the President's Contingent Fund shall be allocated for the campaign to promote the Bright Child and provide seed money to initially implement the integrated program in nutritionally depressed municipalities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 287**  
**DIRECTING THE DEPLOYMENT/POSTING OF SOCIAL WELFARE ATTACHES IN**  
**SELECTED DIPLOMATIC POSTS**

**WHEREAS**, Sec. 19 of Republic Act No. 8042, otherwise known as the “Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Act” requires the establishment of Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Resource Centers in countries where there are large concentrations of Filipino migrant workers to provide counseling, legal and welfare assistance and other services to OFWs;

**WHEREAS**, Art. 21 of the Labor Code of the Philippines requires the Labor Attaches and Consular Officials to provide protection to Filipino workers on all matters arising out of employment; to ensure that they are not exploited or discriminated against; and to verify and certify that the terms and conditions of employment contracts are in accordance with the Labor Code and the rules and regulations of Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA).

**WHEREAS**, Sec. 16 of Republic Act No. 9208, otherwise known as the “Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003”, has mandated government agencies, specifically the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) to establish and implement rehabilitative and protective programs for victims of such trafficking;

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 221 mandates the DSWD to provide care, protection, and rehabilitation of that segment of the country’s population which has the least in life and which needs social welfare assistance and social work intervention to restore their normal functioning and participation in community affairs;

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act 8043 mandates the Secretary of the DSWD to be ex-officio Chairperson of the Inter-country Adoption Board and stipulates that its social workers assist in the facilitation of adoption of Filipino children in foreign countries;

**WHEREAS**, to meet the above-mentioned responsibilities, the DSWD entered into an agreement with the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) on the deployment of Social Welfare Attaches to Philippine Foreign Posts with large concentration of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs).

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby direct the deployment of social workers as Social Welfare Attaches in selected diplomatic posts with large concentration of OFWs, and in relation thereto, order the following:

**SECTION 1. *Selection of Diplomatic Posts.*** The Social Welfare Attaches shall be deployed in countries with the highest concentration of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) as determined in coordination with the Department of Foreign Affairs, Department of Labor and Employment and Philippine Overseas Employment Agency.

**SEC. 2. *Functions and Duties of the Social Welfare Attache.*** The Social Welfare Attache so deployed shall perform the following functions and duties at post:

- 
- 2.1. Undertake surveys and prepare official social welfare situationers on the OFWs in the area of assignment;
  - 2.2. Establish a network with overseas-based social welfare agencies and/or individuals and groups which may be mobilized to assist in the provision of appropriate social services;
  - 2.3. Respond to and monitor the resolution of problems and complaints/queries of OFWs and their families;
  - 2.4. Establish and maintain a system of data banking and documentation of OFWs and their families so that appropriate social welfare services can be more effectively provided.
  - 2.5. Submit regular reports to the DSWD and DFA Home Office on plans and activities undertaken, recommendations, and updates on the situation of OFWs particularly those encountering difficulties in the host country. Said report may form part of the Semi-Annual report to Congress as provided under Section 33 of RA 8042.
  - 2.6. Provide information about DSWD and its attached agencies and services.
  - 2.7. Perform other related function in the delivery of social services, as may be directed by the Head of the Diplomatic Post in the area of assignment.

**SEC. 3. *Institutional Arrangements.*** The DSWD, DFA and DOLE are mandated to perform the following tasks/functions in the implementation of this Order:

3.1 Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)

- 3.1.1. Designate and assign from among its ranks, the most qualified personnel to be deployed as Social Welfare Attaches;
- 3.1.2. Provide for the salary and other benefits of the said personnel including overseas allowances and other emoluments attached to the position,
- 3.1.3. Provide available training and other related activities to promote efficiency and effectiveness in the discharge of functions and duties prior to deployment;
- 3.1.4. Exercise technical supervision over its deployed personnel in coordination with the DFA and DOLE and other relevant agencies and organizations;
- 3.1.5. Tap and allocate funds for the supervision of basic welfare services needed by the OFWs;

3.2 Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA)

- 3.2.1. Facilitate accreditation of deployed DSWD personnel;
  - 3.2.2. Assist the DSWD in the conduct of the pre-deployment orientation and other relevant training program to the assigned personnel;
  - 3.2.3. Assist the DSWD in facilitating requisites for deployment;
  - 3.2.4. Provide logistical support to the Social Welfare Attache including adequate office space whenever feasible; and
  - 3.2.5. Undertake administrative and operational supervision to the deployed personnel in coordination with DSWD and other relevant agencies and organizations.
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3.3. Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE)

- 3.3.1. Work with DSWD in the provision of skills training and other welfare services to the OFWs to facilitate complementation of services; and
- 3.3.2. Assist the DSWD in the conduct of orientation training and immersion program for the Social Welfare Attache prior to deployment.

**SEC. 4. *Funding.*** The heads of the departments and agencies concerned shall immediately include their responsibilities under this order in their respective work programs and issue such internal guidelines as appropriate to implement the same, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

**SEC. 5. *Effectivity.*** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE**, in the City of Manila, this 24<sup>th</sup> day of **February**, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 288**

AMENDING THE RULES GOVERNING THE ADMISSION AND STAY IN THE PHILIPPINES, AS  
TEMPORARY VISITORS, OF CHINESE NATIONALS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF TOUR GROUPS

**WHEREAS**, it is declared policy of the Government to attract and promote trade, investment and tourism as instruments of economic growth and national development;

**WHEREAS**, the World Tourism Organization forecasts that by 2010, outbound tourism from the People's Republic of China will grow to approximately thirty million;

**WHEREAS**, the People's Republic of China has a huge potential as a major source of tourists for the Philippines;

**WHEREAS**, further streamlining of procedures and liberalization of entry of Chinese nationals is essential in attracting tourists from the People's Republic of China.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby promulgate the following rules governing the entry and stay in the Philippines, as temporary visitors, of nationals of the People's Republic of China, including its Hong Kong and Macao Special Administrative Regions:

**SECTION 1. Coverage.** Chinese nationals, holding People's Republic of China passports, Hong Kong Special Administrative region passports, Certificates of Identities, and Documents of Identities, Macao Special Administrative Region passports and Travel Permits who are members of tour groups with a minimum of three (3) members may apply for a tour group visa with an authorized maximum period of stay of fifty-nine (59) days, from any Philippine Foreign Service Post in China, including the Philippine Consulate General in Hong Kong SAR.

**SEC. 2. Visa Fees.** The Visa fee for tour groups with at least twenty (20) members shall be US\$15.00 per member, while those tour groups with less than twenty (20) members shall be US\$25 per member. Executive Order (EO) No. 168 dated 11 April 1994, is hereby amended and modified accordingly. However, all other fees and other provisions in said EO No. 168 in so far as not inconsistent herewith, shall remain in force and effect.

**SEC. 3. Repealing Clause.** All other executive orders, letters of instruction, administrative orders and/or similar issuances inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 4. Effectivity.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately. The Department of Foreign Affairs, Department of Tourism and the Bureau of Immigration are hereby directed to issue the implementing circulars.

24 FEBRUARY 2004

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 289**

**REVOCATION OF THE MEMORANDUM DATED MAY 24, 1966 ISSUED BY FORMER PRESIDENT FERDINAND E. MARCOS DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS TO STOP THE GRANT OF FORESHORE LEASES ALONG THE MANILA BAY TOWARDS CAVITE AND TOWARDS BATAAN**

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources is the primary government agency responsible for the conservation, management, development and proper utilization of the country's environment and natural resources;

**WHEREAS**, it is imperative to promote the sustainable use of coastal shoreline and foreshore areas in the country through effective and efficient management schemes and strategies;

**WHEREAS**, on May 24, 1966, former President Ferdinand E. Marcos issued a Memorandum directing, among others, the stoppage of the grant of foreshore leases along the Manila Bay towards Cavite and towards Bataan;

**WHEREAS**, the issuance of said Memorandum has adversely affected the government's developmental efforts along these areas;

**WHEREAS**, the government recognizes the need to develop and utilize these foreshore areas in order to fully promote their protection and to ensure maximum returns.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** *Revocation of the Memorandum dated May 24, 1966.* The Memorandum issued by former President Ferdinand E. Marcos, dated May 24, 1966, to stop the grant of foreshore leases/permits all along the Manila Bay towards Cavite and towards Bataan, is hereby **REVOKED**.

**Sec. 2.** *Management and Disposition of the Manila Bay Foreshore Areas towards Cavite and towards Bataan.* The management and disposition of foreshore areas along the Manila Bay towards Cavite and towards Bataan shall be under the jurisdiction of the Department Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

**SEC. 3.** *Harmonization of Land Use Plans of Concerned Local Government Units (LGUs).* The existing land use plans of the concerned LGUs with respect to these foreshore lands shall be harmonized with the existing DENR laws, rules, and regulations on foreshore areas utilization.

**SEC. 4.** *Strict Regulation of the Utilization and Development of the Areas.* The utilization and development of all foreshore areas along Manila Bay towards Cavite and towards Bataan shall be strictly regulated by the DENR in accordance with the Manila Bay Strategy and Framework Plan as embodied in the Manila Bay Environmental Management Project. Further, such development must strictly comply with the land use plan of the concerned city or municipality and the requirements imposed by existing DENR rules and regulations on the matter, taking into consideration the sustainable use and development of these areas.

**SEC. 5. *Filing, Acceptance, Processing and Award of Leases and Permits.*** The filing, acceptance and processing of applications in these areas shall resume upon the effectivity of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of this Order. In the awarding of foreshore lease contracts and/or permits, the DENR shall ensure that the requirements are strictly complied with and the existing laws, rules and regulations on the matters are strictly enforced.

**SEC. 6. *Action on Illegal Lodgers.*** Subject to applicable laws and regulations, the DENR shall impose appropriate penalties to the illegal lodger in these areas, such as, but not limited to charging of fines, removal of illegal structures, among others.

**SEC. 7. *Formulation and Issuance of Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).*** The DENR, within ninety (90) days from the approval of this Order, shall formulate and issue its IRR, in consultation with concerned government agencies, LGUs, civil society, and other stakeholders.

**SEC. 8. *Submission of Progress Reports.*** The DENR shall regularly submit progress reports to the President on the Implementation of this Order.

**SEC. 9. *Repealing clause.*** All executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Order shall be deemed revoked, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 10. *Effectivity.*** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 24<sup>TH</sup> day of February, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 290**  
**IMPLEMENTING THE NATURAL GAS VEHICLE PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. (RA) 7638, otherwise known as the “Department of Energy Act of 1992”, declares that it is the policy of the State to ensure continuous, adequate and economic supply of energy through the integrated and intensive exploration, production, management and development of the country’s indigenous energy resources, with due regard to ecological concerns;

**WHEREAS**, RA No. 8749, also known as the “Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999”, declares as a policy the promotion and protection of the environment against pollution from mobile sources;

**WHEREAS**, the Malampaya Gas-to-Power Project represents the beginning of the natural gas industry in the Philippines with three gas-fired power plants with a total installed capacity of 2,760 MW as initial customers;

**WHEREAS**, apart from its application in the power sector, natural gas may be used as fuel for vehicles in the transport sector and as a source of energy in the industrial and commercial sectors;

**WHEREAS**, the launching on October 16, 2002 of the Natural Gas Vehicle Program for Public Transport saw the unveiling of a portfolio of incentives to encourage active participation of the private sector to provide the necessary support, logistics and infrastructure;

**WHEREAS**, the NGVPPT is envisioned to enhance energy supply security in the transport sector through fuel diversification using indigenous natural gas;

**WHEREAS**, natural gas is a clean burning alternative fuel for vehicles which has the potential to produce substantially lower pollutant emissions and can provide a solution to the pressing environmental problems in urban areas.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. Program Objective.** The Natural Gas Vehicle Program for Public Transport (NGVPPT) shall have the following objectives:

- 1.1 To enhance energy supply security in the transport sector through fuel diversification using indigenous natural gas; and
- 1.2 To use compressed natural gas (CNG) as a clean alternative fuel for transport.

**Sec. 2. Coverage.** The NGVPPT, as an integral part of the Philippine Natural Gas Industry, shall cover the following key components:

*2.1 Gas Supply*

Natural gas shall be supplied as CNG in the transport sector through: i) the use of indigenous gas resource, i.e. the Malampaya gas from Palawan, for the NGVPPT and other local gas

that will be explored for additional demand; and ii) the importation of liquefied natural gas (LNG) from gas producers around the world to supplement existing indigenous gas supply.

## *2.2 Infrastructure development*

CNG refueling stations and all related facilities shall be established in strategic locations along major thoroughfares in Metro Manila and Luzon to serve the fuel needs of CNG-powered public utility vehicles (PUVs).

The CNG refueling stations may involve a combination of a “mother-daughter” system and/or an on-line station where the required gas pipeline is already available.

In the absence of a pipeline at the initial phase of the NGVPPT, the refueling set up shall be a “mother-daughter” scheme where a high pressure mother station shall be built inside the Malampaya Onshore Gas Plant (MOGP) and the daughter stations shall be established in identified strategic locations.

## *2.3 Market development*

The public transport sector, which includes public utility buses (PUBs), public utility jeepneys (PUJs), taxis and other PUVs, shall be encouraged to use natural gas as fuel.

## *2.4 Technology*

Existing NGV technology in the world for refueling systems and transport vehicles shall be adopted locally in compliance with applicable local and international standards.

For transport vehicles, available NGV technology shall include Original Equipment Manufactured (OEM)-NGVs, retrofit system and conversion options.

The use of OEM-NGVs shall be strongly recommended as the technology to be adopted during the initial phase of the NGVPPT followed by the retrofit system and conversion option when the same shall have become technically and commercially feasible.

## *2.5 Incentives and Financial Assistance*

The NGVPPT shall develop and offer incentive packages for all NGV industry stakeholders.

## *2.6 Manpower development*

Local technical capability and expertise on NGV retrofitting; conversion; fabrication of conversion systems; NGV and refueling station operation and maintenance; and other related activities as well as the capability to locally produce NGV chassis, bodies and engines shall be pursued through technology transfer and training.

## *2.7 Standards and other regulatory concerns*

The standards, codes of practice and other regulatory procedures shall be established by the relevant agencies to ensure the integrity of the NGVPPT and public safety.

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### *2.8 Information Education Communication (IEC)*

An IEC program shall inform and educate stakeholders and the general public on the benefits of using natural gas particularly in the transport sector.

**Sec. 3. Lead Implementing Agency.** Consistent with Executive Order No. 66, series of 2002, designating the DOE as the lead agency in developing the Philippine natural gas industry, the DOE shall be the lead implementing agency for the NGVPPT. In coordination with different government agencies, institutions and the private sector, the DOE shall:

- (i) Take the lead in implementing the NGVPPT, including pilot projects to spur accelerated development, to encourage the use of CNG-powered PUVs and establishment of the necessary refueling infrastructure;
- (ii) Develop an implementation plan to ensure the success, synergy and continuity of all activities related to the NGVPPT;
- (iii) Develop and implement the necessary guidelines for the accomplishment of the objectives of this Executive Order;
- (iv) Develop a CNG Masterplan in coordination/cooperation with concerned government agencies/institutions and in consultation with all stakeholders; and
- (v) Facilitate program participants' access to privileges and incentives.

**Sec. 4. Co-Implementing Agencies.** The following government agencies/institutions shall work with the DOE to implement the NGVPPT:

- 4.1 The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), through its Environmental Management Bureau (EMB), shall fast track the issuance of Environmental Compliance Certificates (ECC) for NGV facilities and refueling stations and shall formulate emission standards for CNG.
  - 4.2 The Department of Finance (DOF) shall create a pricing environment conducive to the use of CNG vis-à-vis diesel and shall formulate tax policies relative to the NGVPPT, and through
    - (i) The Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), develop revenue regulations for the implementation of time-bound tax incentives for CNG, NGVs and related facilities and infrastructure; and
    - (ii) The Bureau of Customs (BOC), implement guidelines on reduced tariffs on NGVs, NGV engines and other NGV industry related equipment, facilities parts and components duly certified by the DOE.
  - 4.3 The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) shall develop and promote locally manufactured NGV conversion kits, parts and components; develop training modules on NGV conversion, operation and maintenance and refueling station operation and maintenance; and establish testing centers for NGV systems, components and related equipment and facilities together with the DOE.
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4.4 The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), through

- (i) The Bureau of Product Standards (BPS), shall establish Philippine National Standards for Natural Gas Utilization in the Transport Sector and certify the safety of CNG fuel, NGVs, NGV systems and components and related equipment and facilities; and
- (ii) The Board of Investment (BOI), shall enhance existing incentive packages for land transportation using CNG, conversion shops, terminals with CNG refueling stations and the manufacture/assembly of NGVs and provide incentives to other NGV industry related activities.

4.5 The Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) shall work with the DOE to develop an implementation plan for a gradual shift to CNG fuel utilization in PUVs and promote NGVs in Metro Manila and Luzon through the issuance of directives/orders providing preferential franchises in present day major routes and exclusive franchises to NGVs in newly opened routes, compliance with emission standards and other preferential incentives through

- (i) The Land Transportation Office (LTO), which shall issue Certificates of Compliance (COC) with emission standards to NGVs;
- (ii) The Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB), which shall grant preferential and exclusive Certificates of Public Convenience (CPC) or franchises to operators of NGVs based on the results of the DOTC surveys.

4.6 The Department of Interior and Local Government (LTFRB) shall formulate safety measures relative to NGV industry practices and apprehend violators of standards and safety rules and regulations.

4.7 The Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) shall provide regulatory and administrative support and introduce traffic schemes favoring NGVs to enhance the use of such NGVs in Metro Manila, and shall integrate the location of CNG refueling stations within the overall plan/rationalization of its intermodal terminal program.

4.8 The Tariff Commission (TC) shall reduce tariffs on NGVs, NGV engines, conversion kits/systems, refueling equipment and other NGV industry related equipment, facilities, parts and components.

4.9 The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) shall develop training modules and conduct training for NGV conversion/retrofit/maintenance engineers, mechanics and technicians and certify the same after the training.

4.10 Government financing institutions (GFIs) such as, but not limited to, the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP), Landbank of the Philippines (LBP), Trade and Investment Development Corp. of the Philippines (TIDCORP) and the Small Business Guarantee Fund Corporation (SBGFC) shall develop separate financing windows for the NGV industry which provide affordable and commercially tenable financing to NGV, refueling station and related infrastructure operators.

4.11 The Philippine National Oil Company (PNOC), together with its subsidiary, PNOC-Exploration Corporation, shall provide the necessary support for infrastructure development such as, but not limited to, the gas supply for performance testing of demo NGVs.

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**Sec. 5. Privileges.** The following privileges and incentives may be availed of by the NGVPPT participants:

- 5.1 Income tax holiday for pioneering projects qualifying under the BOI's Investments Priorities Plan;
- 5.2 One percent (1%) rate of duty on imported NGVs, NGV engines and other NGV industry related equipment, facilities, parts and components as certified by the DOE;
- 5.3 Issuance by the LTO of Certificates of Compliance with Emissions Standards to NGVs;
- 5.4 Preferential and exclusive franchises from the LTFRB for NGVs to newly opened routes;
- 5.5 Accelerated issuance by the DENR of ECC for NGV facilities and refueling stations;
- 5.6 Affordable and commercially tenable financial packages from GFIs;
- 5.7 Manpower development and capability building through training and technology transfer programs;
- 5.8 Attractive CNG prices which translate to a discount to diesel price;
- 5.9 Other privileges and incentives that may be subsequently provided.

**Sec. 6. Pilot Project.** A Pilot Project shall be established to demonstrate and showcase the initial operation of natural gas buses for public transport in the Batangas-Manila and/or Metro Manila routes using indigenous natural gas from the MOGP in Batangas.

The overall objective of the Pilot Project is to promote the use of CNG as an indigenous clean alternative fuel to diesel and improve air quality. The Pilot Project will evaluate the commercial viability, technical requirements, market demand, impact of incentives and public acceptance for natural gas in the public transport sector.

The components of the Pilot Project include i) launching of 100 OEM natural gas buses; ii) construction/operation of mother-daughter CNG refueling stations; iii) application/operationalization of newly designed incentives and financing packages; and iv) IEC campaigns.

**Sec. 7. Creation of the Executive Forum.** A NGVPPT Executive Forum (Executive Forum) is hereby created to function as a regular and permanent body to provide effective leadership, coordination and proper direction in the implementation of the NGVPPT.

**Sec. 8. Composition of the Executive Forum.**

- 8.1 The Executive Forum shall be composed of the lead implementing and co-implementing agencies with the Undersecretary of the Department of Energy as Chairperson and senior officials of the co-implementing agencies as members.
- 8.2 Representatives from the private sector may be invited to serve as members and/or resource participants of the Forum to promote an environment conducive to active private sector participation in the NGVPPT. Such private sector representatives may include representatives from infrastructure developers, refueling station operators, the transport sector, non-governmental organizations and other similar entities.
- 8.3 The Chairperson and each of the members shall designate a permanent alternate.

**Sec. 9. Powers and Functions.**

- 9.1 The Executive Forum shall accelerate, integrate and coordinate interagency activities that include the implementation of existing privileges and incentives and formulation of additional fiscal and non-fiscal incentives, financial packages and standards;

- 9.2 The Executive Forum shall formulate its own programs, plans and activities in pursuit of the objectives of this Executive Order, monitor the implementation of agency actions and recommendations arising therefrom and recommend the necessary measures that will enhance competitiveness of the NGV industry;
- 9.3 The Executive Forum shall develop its own internal rules that shall govern the conduct of its meetings and other deliberations or proceedings;
- 9.4 The Executive Forum shall meet as often as necessary but in no case less than once every quarter to discuss or deliberate on any action, recommendation and/or proposal.

**Sec. 10. Secretariat.** Technical and secretariat support to the Executive Forum shall be provided by the DOE.

**Sec. 11. Separability Clause.** In the event that any of the provisions of this Executive Order is declared unconstitutional with finality by a court of competent jurisdiction, the validity of the other provisions shall not be affected by such declaration.

**Sec. 12. Effectivity.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 24<sup>TH</sup> day of FEB, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 291**  
AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 248 DATED 26 OCTOBER 2003 CREATING THE  
OFFICE OF THE ANTI-KIDNAPPING PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER.

**WHEREAS**, the Office of the Anti-Kidnapping Presidential Adviser was created to implement a campaign against kidnapping involving law enforcement and counteraction agencies and the private sector through the National Anti-kidnapping Task Force [NAKTF];

**WHEREAS**, initial efforts of NAKTF have proven effective in fighting kidnapping because of popular support from the private sector, among others.

**WHEREAS**, to sustain the effectiveness of NAKTF's anti-kidnapping efforts, there is a need to encourage wider participation from the private sector.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** Section 2 of Executive Order No. 248 dated 26 October 2003 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 2. Oversight Committee – There is hereby created an Oversight Commitment to ensure the execution by active participation of the involved law enforcement and counteraction agencies of the anti-kidnapping action programs.

The Oversight Committee shall be composed of the following:

|                                               |          |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------|
| Secretary Angelo Reyes                        | Chairman |
| Secretary of Interior and Local Government    | Member   |
| Secretary of National Defense                 | Member   |
| Secretary of Justice                          | Member   |
| Secretary of Transportation and Communication | Member   |

Seven (7) representatives from the private sector shall be appointed by the President as members of the Oversight Committee.”

**SECTION 2.** All orders, circulars, memoranda, rules, regulations and other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent herewith are superseded or amended accordingly.

**SECTION 3.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, 28th day of February 2004.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 292**  
**EXTENDING THE DURATION OF OPERATION OF THE PRESIDENTIAL MIDDLE EAST**  
**PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE (PMEPC)**

**WHEREAS**, the Presidential Middle East Preparedness Committee (PMEPC) was established pursuant to Executive Order (EO) No. 159 dated December 23, 2002 to prepare, coordinate and implement the government's response to the critical developments in the Middle East;

**WHEREAS**, said EO 159 provides that the PMEPC shall exist for a period up to twelve (12) months, or until December 23, 2003, unless otherwise directed by the President;

**WHEREAS**, tensions in the Middle East continue to exist, particularly in the country of Iraq, which continues to pose a serious threat to the economic stability and related ramification on the country's national security and development;

**WHEREAS**, the safety and welfare of some 1.4 million overseas Filipino workers in the Middle East is of primordial concern to the national government;

**WHEREAS**, the country remains steadfast in its support against global terrorism;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines as member of the family of nations, has committed to support the Iraqi people in rebuilding their nation in its quest for lasting democracy;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Executive Order No. 194, the PMEPC was additionally tasked to be member of the Task Force on the Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of Iraq;

**WHEREAS**, Philippines has sent a Philippine Humanitarian Contingent to Iraq (PHCI) last August 20, 2003 for an initial period of not less than six (6) months composed of AFP, PNP and DOH personnel;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Executive Order 195, the PMEPC was also tasked to oversee the administration and operations of the PHCI while deployed in Iraq;

**WHEREAS**, there is therefore a need for the PMEPC to continue with its mandate, including its additional tasks pursuant to E.O. 194 and 195.

**WHEREAS**, under Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, the President has the continuing authority to reorganize the functions of the Office of the President;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the one (1) year extension of the existence of the PMEPC or until December 23, 2004, unless otherwise directed by the President.

**SECTION. 1. *Functions*** - The PMEPC shall continue to exercise its function and responsibilities as provided under EO 159 dated December 23, 2002, EO 194 dated April 14, 2003 and EO 195 dated April 14, 2003.

**SEC. 2. *Funding*** -The PMEPC shall coordinate with the Department of Budget and Management for its funding requirements, the source of which may include the Contingency Fund of the President as well as available funds from the agencies forming part of the PMEPC, subject to the usual government accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

SEC. 3. Repeal – All other rules, regulations and issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 4. Effectivity – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 293**  
**AUTHORIZING THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY TO INTERVENE IN THE**  
**STABILIZATION OF THE PRICE OF SUGAR.**

**WHEREAS**, there is an urgent need to stabilize the price of sugar which is a basic necessity under R.A. 7581, otherwise known as the Price Act brought about by the low farmgate prices thereof to the detriment of farmer-producers;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 3 of Executive Order No. 1028, series of 1995, the President may, for stabilization purposes, authorize the intervention by the appropriate government entity in the trading of food items if so warranted by conditions that may exist from time to time;

**WHEREAS**, the National Food Authority (NFA), considering its manpower, facilities and capability in the marketing of grains and non-grain commodities, is deemed to be the most appropriate government agency to intervene in the stabilization of sugar prices and supply;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**Sec. 1. Intervention by the National Food Authority.** The National Food Authority (NFA) is hereby authorized to intervene in the stabilization of sugar prices. It shall procure or cause the procurement of raw sugar regardless of its classification in such volume as it may deem necessary in consultation with the Department of Agriculture. The NFA is further authorized to incur the necessary expenses to effectively undertake the said activity.

**Sec. 2. Funding.** For this purpose, the NFA is hereby authorized to make available and use its corporate funds, manpower, other facilities and credit lines, as well as the unremitted income accruing to the Agricultural Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (ACEF) as derived from the incentives of the Minimum Access Volume Importation of Sugar. The NFA is likewise exempted from the payment of advance Value Added Tax (VAT) when it refines its procured sugar.

**Sec. 3. Nature of Funds.** All disbursements, as well as administrative and operational expenses incurred by virtue hereof shall be treated as a Special Projects Account, subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

**Sec. 4. Implementing Guidelines.** The NFA, in consultation with the Department of Agriculture, shall issue the necessary guidelines to implement the provisions of this Executive Order, specifically the pricing mechanism, marketing and distribution strategies and monitoring system.

**Sec. 5. Effectivity.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain valid until June 30, 2004.



Done in the City of Manila, this **1st** day of **March**, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 294**  
**CREATING THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER FOR CONSTITUTIONAL**  
**REFORM AND DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

**WHEREAS**, it is evident that there are growing movements to propose reforms in the 1987 Constitution to reflect the changed political, economic and social situation of our country, and thereby frame a fundamental law that could provide our people with an enduring framework within which they could achieve peace, unity, and progress;

**WHEREAS**, there is need to provide for an office which shall specifically address and attend to these various movements and their proposals for reforms;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the administrative Code of 1987, the President has the continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the Office of the President;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Creation*** – The Office of the Presidential Adviser for Constitutional Reform (OPACR) is hereby created under the Office of the President, to be headed by the Presidential Adviser for Constitutional Reform (PACR), who shall have the rank and emoluments of a Cabinet Secretary.

**SEC. 2. *Powers and Functions of the Office of the Presidential Adviser for Constitutional Reform***. – The PACR shall exercise the following powers and functions:

- a. Study and advise the President on matters and concerns relative to changes in and reforms of the 1987 Constitution, including fundamental changes in the political structure of the Government;
- b. Conduct consultations and undertake liaisons with the public and private sectors;
- c. Recommend to the President policies, strategies, programs and mechanisms conducive to the attainment of the necessary fundamental changes and reforms; and
- d. Submit periodic reports to the President and perform such other functions as the President may direct.

**SEC. 3. *Organizational Support***. – The PACR shall be assisted by a Deputy Presidential Adviser who shall have the rank of an Undersecretary and two (2) Assistant Secretaries. The PACR is hereby authorized to formulate the organizational structure of its office and engage the services of consultants as may be necessary, consistent with existing laws.

**SEC. 4. *Assistance***. – The OPACR may call upon any agency of the Government for such assistance as may be necessary in the performance of its functions.

**SEC. 5. *Funding.*** – Funding for the initial operations of the OPACR shall be provided by the Office of the President. Succeeding appropriations shall be included in the budget proposal for the Office of the President.

**SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.*** – All orders, rules, regulation, and issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 7. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon approval.

DONE, in the City of Manila this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 295**  
**MODIFYING THE NOMENCLATURE AND RATES OF IMPORT DUTY ON SUGAR**  
**(HEADING 17.01) UNDER SECTION 104 OF THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978**  
**(PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1464), AS AMENDED**

**WHEREAS**, a review of the present classification of sugars under HS Heading 17.01, Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978 (PD 1464), as amended, is warranted to facilitate monitoring of imported sugars and establish a clear framework for rules relating to the classification of sugars and articles containing the same;

**WHEREAS**, the NEDA Board Committee on Tariff and Related Matters (CTRM) approved, at its meeting of 23 February 2004, the grant of a tariff concession on imports of certain sugars from the ASEAN Member States;

**WHEREAS**, Sections 401 and 402 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, empowers the President of the Republic of the Philippines to increase, reduce and remove existing rates of import duty, as well as to modify the form of duty and the tariff nomenclature, under Section 104 of the Code;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The articles specifically listed in Annex “A” hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be subject to the rates of import duty [Most-Favoured-Nation (MFN) and ASEAN Common Effective Preferential Tariff (CEPT)] indicated in columns 4 and 5 opposite each article.

**SEC. 2.** The ASEAN CEPT rates so indicated in Annex “A” shall be accorded to imports coming from ASEAN Member States applying CEPT concession to the same product pursuant to Article 4 of the CEPT Agreement and its Interpretive Notes.

**SEC. 3.** The nomenclature and the rates of import duty on tariff headings not enumerated and those listed but represented by the symbol “x x x” shall remain in force and in effect.

**SEC. 4.** Upon the effectivity of this Executive Order, all articles listed in Annex “A” which are entered and withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines for consumption shall be levied the MFN rates of duty therein prescribed.

**SEC. 5.** Upon the effectivity of this Executive Order, all articles listed in Annex “A” which are entered and withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines for consumption shall be imposed the ASEAN CEPT rates of duty therein prescribed subject to qualification under the Rules of Origin as provided for in the Agreement on the CEPT Scheme for the ASEAN Free Trade Area signed on 28 January 1992.

**SEC. 6.** All presidential issuances, administrative rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are contrary to or inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 7.** This Executive Order shall be subject to annual review by the CTRM.

SEC. 8. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately following its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

DONE in the City Manila, this 3rd day of March, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Reference:* Annex “A”

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 296**

**FURTHER AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 219 DATED JANUARY 3, 1995 ESTABLISHING  
THE DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION LIBERALIZATION POLICY**

**WHEREAS**, Official Philippine Carriers and the private sector in the tourism industry are major stakeholders in Air Services Agreements and similar arrangements, and thus should be allowed to participate in the negotiations of such Air Services Agreements as members of the single Negotiating Panel created under Executive Order No. 219 dated January 3, 1995, as amended by Executive Order No. 32 dated August 22, 2001;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order paragraph 1.7 of EO No. 219 to be further amended to read as follows:

*“1.7 Constituting a Single Negotiating Panel.* To represent the Philippines in all negotiations leading to the conclusion of Air Services Agreements or similar arrangements and succeeding negotiations or consultation talks regarding these Air Services Agreements or similar arrangements, a single Negotiating Panel is hereby constituted composed of representatives of the following government agencies government agencies:

|                                                 |   |                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Department of Transportation and Communications | - | Chairman                                                      |
| Department of Foreign Affairs                   | - | Vice Chairman                                                 |
| Department of Tourism                           | - | Member                                                        |
| Department of Trade and Industry                | - | Member                                                        |
| Civil Aeronautics Board                         | - | Member                                                        |
| Official Philippine Carriers                    | - | One (1) Member each                                           |
| Private Sector in the Tourism Industry          | - | Two (2) Members to be recommended by the Secretary of Tourism |

and such other person/s as may be authorized by the President.”

All executive orders, rules and regulations and other issuances inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby revoked or modified accordingly.

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, March 10, 2004.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 297**  
**CREATING THE OFFICE OF THE ANTI-SMUGGLING PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER**

**WHEREAS**, smuggling and other acts contrary to customs laws committed on a large scale or by criminal syndicates pose a serious and direct threat to the national economy by depriving the government of much-needed revenues and unfairly competing with legitimate businesses and to the national security through the introduction into the country of dangerous drugs or prohibited articles;

**WHEREAS**, to maximize the capability of law enforcement agencies and optimize the utilization of government resources in its campaign against smuggling, a Cabinet-level Presidential Adviser must orchestrate and oversee a consolidated anti-smuggling campaign;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, the President has the continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the Office of the President.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Creation.*** – There is hereby created the Office of the Anti-Smuggling Presidential Adviser (“Adviser”) under the Office of the President. Its principal mission is to provide advice and recommendation to the President on matters relating to acts contrary to the Tariff and Customs Code of the Philippines (Republic Act [R.A.] No. 1937), as amended, committed on a large scale or by criminal syndicates, and to ensure that there is a national campaign against smuggling wherein all involved law enforcement and counteraction agencies are operating as part of an integrated and coordinated pro-active effort. Based on guidelines issued by the President, the Presidential Adviser shall formulate policies, develop strategies, and execute programs of action for a consolidated effort to preempt, prevent and suppress smuggling, arrest smugglers and their accessories and cause their speedy prosecution. Anti-Kidnapping Presidential Adviser Angelo T. Reyes is hereby designated Anti-Smuggling Presidential Adviser.

As used in this Executive Order:

- a. Acts contrary to R.A. No. 1937, as amended, shall be deemed to be committed on a large scale when these acts involve the importation of goods or contraband with a determinable value of at least Five Million Pesos (P5,000,000.00); and
- b. Acts contrary to R.A. No. 1937, as amended, shall be deemed to be committed by a syndicate when carried out by a group of three (3) or more persons conspiring and/or confederating with one another in carrying out these unlawful acts.

**SECTION 2. *Oversight Committee.*** – There is hereby created an Oversight Committee to ensure the execution by active participation of the involved law enforcement and counteraction agencies of the anti-smuggling action programs.



The Oversight Committee shall be composed of the following:

|                                                |               |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Anti-Smuggling Presidential Adviser            | Chairman      |
| Secretary of Finance                           | Vice-Chairman |
| Secretary of the Interior and Local Government | Member        |
| Secretary of National Defense                  | Member        |
| Secretary of Justice                           | Member        |
| Secretary of Agriculture                       | Member        |
| Secretary of Trade and Industry                | Member        |
| Secretary of Transportation and Communications | Member        |

**SECTION 3. Functions.** – In pursuance of the government’s firm resolve in applying the full force of the law against smugglers, the Adviser is mandated to discharge the following functions:

- a. Formulate strategies and plans for a coordinated and integrated implementation of measures aimed at preventing, preempting and suppressing smuggling and other acts contrary to R.A. No. 1937;
- b. Direct the conduct of anti-smuggling intelligence operations, utilizing all available government instrumentalities, to detect smuggling or other acts contrary to R.A. No. 1937 and to arrest smugglers, including their coddlers and accessories;
- c. Establish a mechanism for an interactive and coordinative mode of operations to ensure operational effectiveness with utmost economy and efficiency;
- d. Exercise operational supervision and control over all existing anti-smuggling agencies and task forces, jointly with the Secretaries of the Departments to which the agencies and task forces organically belong. For this purpose, “operational supervision and control” shall refer to the power to direct, superintend, and oversee the day-to-day activities to preempt, prevent and suppress smuggling, arrest smugglers and their accessories and cause their speedy prosecution;
- e. Hire personnel and select personnel from participating law-enforcement agencies for assignment to task forces and special project groups;
- f. Cause or direct the immediate investigation and speedy prosecution of cases involving smuggling and monitor the progress of such cases;
- g. Grant monetary rewards and incentives to informants who are willing to give vital and material information for building up cases for the prosecution of smuggling suspects;
- h. Exercise the powers of search and seizure under R.A. No. 1937, as amended, for the enforcement of tariff and customs laws pursuant to the special written authorization issued by the Commissioner of Customs;
- i. Assist in the administrative seizure proceedings involving the articles seized;
- j. Recommend the issuance of appropriate policies and/or the legislation of laws that would hasten the arrest and prosecution of smugglers and their accessories;
- k. Recommend the admission of vital witnesses into the Witness Protection and Security Benefit Program administered by the Department of Justice (DOJ);
- l. Recommend to the DOJ, in proper cases, the issuance of subpoena *ad testificandum* and subpoena *duces tecum*;
- m. Perform such other actions as may be necessary for the effective discharge of his mandate in accordance with law; and
- n. Exercise such other functions and powers as may be directed by the President.

**SECTION 4. *Staff support.*** – The Adviser shall receive staff support from the Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Commission. The Support Staff shall be headed by a Director and be composed of such other personnel who shall be appointed by the Anti-Smuggling Presidential Adviser.

**SECTION 5. *Organization and Inter-Agency Working Groups.*** – The Adviser shall organize subordinate offices and task forces at the operational and tactical levels and appoint personnel as may be deemed necessary to carry out its mandate. He shall organize staff and line offices such as, but not limited to, the following:

- a. Executive Committee (EXECOM) – shall be responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Office of the Anti-Smuggling Presidential Adviser. It shall establish an Operations Center (OC) as its facility for coordination and direction of integrated response. The EXECOM shall be composed of the following officials or their permanent representative:

|                                                             |               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Anti-Smuggling Presidential Adviser                         | Chairman      |
| Commissioner, Bureau of Customs                             | Vice-Chairman |
| Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP)       | Member        |
| Chief, Philippine National Police (PNP)                     | Member        |
| Director, National Bureau of Investigation (NBI)            | Member        |
| Chief State Prosecutor, National Prosecution Service (NPS)  | Member        |
| Commandant, Philippine Coast Guard                          | Member        |
| General Manager, Philippine Ports Authority                 | Member        |
| Director General, National Intelligence Coordinating Agency | Member        |
| Chief, Anti-Smuggling Intelligence and Investigation Center | Member        |

- b. Line units such as, but not limited to, inter-agency task forces, working groups and special project groups to which may be detailed select personnel from the DILG, DOJ, DND, DOTC, NTC, PNP, AFP, NBI, DOF, DA, NPS and other agencies of the government. Whenever necessitated by special circumstances, and for the duration thereof, the Adviser may designate such government agencies or instrumentalities to provide intelligence, investigation, technical, prosecution and such other support as specified by the Adviser.

**SECTION 6. *Inter-Agency Assistance and Coordination.*** – In addition to the above-stated government agencies, all other government agencies are hereby directed to actively cooperate with and promptly contribute to the anti-smuggling campaign to be implemented by the Adviser. For this purpose, the Adviser may call upon the heads of such government agencies for such assistance as may, from time to time, be necessary.

**SECTION 7. *Private Sector Participation.*** – There shall be an Advisory Board composed of representatives who shall serve as the dialogue partner of the Adviser, selected from the private sector by the Oversight Committee upon the recommendation of the EXECOM. The Advisory Board shall function as a feedback mechanism whose advice shall be used as inputs for policy and strategic adjustments of the Adviser.

**SECTION 8. *Implementation.*** – This Executive Order shall be self-implementing and no additional rules and regulations shall be necessary to commence implementation.

**SECTION 9. *Funding.*** – Funds for the operation of the Office of the Anti-Smuggling Presidential Adviser shall be sourced from the Office of the President and from such other funding sources as may be recommended by the Department of Budget and Management.

**SECTION 10. *Repeal.*** – All orders, rules, regulations and issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 11. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon approval.

City of Manila, MAR 10 2004

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

**Source: Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 298**

AMENDING FURTHER EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 248 DATED MAY 29, 1995 AS AMENDED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 248-A DATED AUGUST 14, 1995, WHICH PRESCRIBES RULES AND REGULATIONS AND NEW RATES OF ALLOWANCES FOR OFFICIAL LOCAL AND FOREIGN TRAVELS OF GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL

**WHEREAS**, the existing rules and regulations and the allowable travel expenses for local and foreign travels of government personnel must be rationalized to make the grant thereof fair and equitable;

**WHEREAS**, in view of the increasing cost of goods and services, there is a need to review the rules and regulations and travel expenses for local and foreign travels;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 79 of Presidential Decree No. 1177, dated July 30, 1977, as amended by Section 72, Book VI of Executive Order No. 292 or the (Administrative Code of 1987), the rates of travel allowances may be changed from time to time as may be determined by the Travel Rates Committee created therein;

**WHEREAS**, the Travel Rates Committee has submitted to the President recommendations to modify the existing rules and regulations and the authorized travel expenses for local and foreign travels;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** Section 4 of EO No. 248, as amended by EO No. 248-A, is hereby renamed as Section 2, and Items b) and c) thereof are hereby amended as follows:

b) Travel Expenses – the amount authorized to cover hotel/lodging rate, meals and incidental expenses excluding transportation expenses going to and from the destinations.

c) Hotel/Lodging Rate – the daily hotel/lodging cost including the prescribed taxes and service charges.

**SEC. 2.** Sections 2 and 3 are hereby renumbered as Section 3 and Section 4, respectively.

**SEC. 3.** The first (1st) paragraph of Section 5 of EO No. 248 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 5. **Approval of Travel and Payment of Travel Expenses.** Travels of officials and employees of National Government Agencies for less than thirty (30) days and payment of travel expenses therefor shall be approved by the head of office/bureau or equivalent. Travels that will last thirty (30) days or more and payment of travel expenses therefor shall be approved by the Department Secretary or his equivalent. The approval of the Department Secretary concerned shall be construed as equivalent to the approval of the Secretary of Budget and Management.

SEC. 4. The first (1<sup>st</sup>), second (2<sup>nd</sup>), and third (3<sup>rd</sup>) paragraphs of Section 6 of the said EO are hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 6. **Allowable Travel Expenses.** The travel expenses of government personnel regardless of rank and destination shall be in the amount of Eight Hundred Pesos (P800.00) per day which shall be apportioned as follows: a) fifty percent (50%) for hotel/lodging, b) thirty percent (30%) for meals and c) twenty percent (20%) for incidental expenses.

Claims for reimbursement of actual travel expenses in excess of the travel expenses authorized herein may be allowed upon certification by the head of agency concerned as absolutely necessary in the performance of an assignment and presentation of bills and receipts. *Provided*, that, certification or affidavit of loss shall not be considered as appropriate replacement for the required hotel/lodging bills and receipts.

Entitlement to travel expenses shall start only upon arrival at the place of destination and shall cease upon departure therefrom at the following percentage:

| Particulars                       | Percentage | To Cover                                                        |
|-----------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Arrival not later than 12:00 noon | 100%       | Hotel/lodging (50%); meals (30%) and incidental expenses (20%)  |
| Arrival after 12:00 noon          | 80%        | Hotel/lodging (50%); dinner (10%) and incidental expenses (20%) |
| Departure before 12:00 noon       | 30%        | Breakfast (10%) and incidental expenses (20%)                   |
| Departure at 12:00 noon and later | 40%        | Breakfast (10%), lunch (10%) and incidental expenses (20%)      |

SEC. 5. The seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) paragraph of Section 6 of the said EO is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Claims for payment of travel expenses travel/assignment to places within the fifty (50) kilometer radius from the last city or municipality covered by the Metropolitan Manila Area in the case of those whose permanent official station is in the Metropolitan Manila Area, or the city or municipality wherein their permanent official station is located in the case of those outside the Metropolitan Manila Area, shall be allowed only upon presentation of proof, duly supported by bills or invoices with official receipts of expenses incurred, that they stayed in the place of their assignment for the whole duration of their official travel. If they commute daily from the place of their assignment to the place of their residence or permanent official station, they shall be allowed only the reimbursement of actual fare at the prevailing rates of the authorized mode of transportation from the permanent official station to the destination or place of work and back, and a reasonable cost for meals. The total actual fare and cost of meals and incidental expenses shall in no case exceed Four Hundred Pesos (P400.00) per day.”

SEC. 6. A second (2<sup>nd</sup>) paragraph is added to Section 9 of the EO to read as follows:

“Reimbursement of the payment of the airport terminal fee at the point of embarkation to go back to the Philippines upon completion of the official trip abroad is likewise authorized.”

SEC. 7. Section 10 of the EO is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 10. **Transportation** – In case officials and employees authorized to travel are not provided with transportation by the host country or sponsoring organization or agency, they shall be allowed official transportation, which shall be of the restricted economy class unless otherwise authorized by the President of the Philippines.

SEC. 8. The first (1<sup>st</sup>) paragraph of Section 12 of the EO is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 12. **Allowable Travel Expenses.** Government personnel who travel abroad shall be entitled to the Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) as provided under the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Index, which can be secured from the Department of Foreign Affairs. The DSA shall be apportioned as follows unless otherwise stated in the UNDP Index: (a) fifty percent (50%) for hotel/lodging; (b) thirty percent (30%) for meals; and (c) twenty percent (20%) for incidental expenses. When the country of destination is not listed in the said Index, the DSA for the nearest country shall be adopted.”

SEC. 9. The second (2<sup>nd</sup>) and third (3<sup>rd</sup>) paragraphs of Section 12 of the EO are hereby amended and merged to read as follows:

“Subject to the approval of the President, claims for reimbursement of actual travel expenses in excess of the DSA authorized herein may be allowed upon certification by the head of agency as absolutely necessary in the performance of an assignment and presentation of bills and receipts. Certification or affidavit of loss shall not be considered as appropriate replacement for the required hotel room/lodging bills and receipts.”

SEC.10. The fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) paragraph of Section 12 of the EO is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Entitlement to DSA shall start only upon arrival at the country of destination and shall cease upon departure therefrom at the following percentage:

| Particulars                       | Percentage | To Cover                                                         |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Arrival not later than 12:00 noon | 100%       | Hotel/lodging (50%); meals (30%); and incidental expenses (20%)  |
| Arrival after 12:00 noon          | 80%        | Hotel/lodging (50%); dinner (10%); and incidental expenses (20%) |
| Departure before 12:00 noon       | 30%        | Breakfast (10%); and incidental expenses (20%)                   |
| Departure at 12:00 noon and later | 40%        | Breakfast (10%); lunch (10%); and incidental expenses (20%)      |

SEC. 11. The fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) paragraph of Section 12 of the EO is hereby amended to read as follows:

“The Daily Subsistence Allowance authorized herein shall be deemed the equivalent of the per diems authorized under Section 75 of RA No. 7157, otherwise known as the Foreign Service Act of 1991.”

SEC. 12. The last paragraph of Section 12 is hereby deleted.

SEC. 13. The second (2<sup>nd</sup>) paragraph of Section 14 of the EO is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Officials and employees who are either assigned from their Home Office to a post abroad or cross-posted from one post to another shall be entitled to the lodging portion of the allowances herein granted during the month said personnel arrived at the post; *Provided*, That the claim which shall be supported by appropriate bills with receipts does not commence until their actual arrival at the post; *Provided, Further*, That pursuant to Section 65 of R.A. No. 7157, they shall not collect living quarters allowance until the first day of the month following their arrival at the post of assignment; *Provided, Finally*, That, the lodging portion of the allowances shall be granted on the basis of the classification of the post as stated under E.O, No. 101, series of 1993 in accordance with the 50% entitlement for hotel/lodging rate provided herein.”

SEC. 14. Section 16 of the EO is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 16. **Rendition of Account on Cash Advances** – Within sixty (60) days after his return to the Philippines, in the case of official travel abroad, or within thirty (30) days of his return to his permanent official station in the case of official local travel, every official or employee shall render an account of the cash advance received by him in accordance with existing applicable rules and regulations and/or such rules and regulations as may be promulgated by the Commission on Audit for the purpose. Refund of excess cash advance may be made either in U.S. dollars if allowed by the Department concerned or in Philippine currency computed at the prevailing bank rate at the day of refund. In the case of the latter, a bank certification or newspaper clipping on the bank rate should be submitted. Payment of the salary of any official or employee who fails to comply with the provisions of this Section shall be suspended until he complies therewith.”

SEC. 15. Section 17 of the said EO is hereby deleted.

SEC. 16. The first (1<sup>st</sup>) paragraph of Section 18 of EO is amended to read as follows:

“Every official or employee assigned or authorized to travel under this Order shall, within thirty (30) days after his return to his permanent official station, submit a report with his recommendations, if any, on the conference or seminar attended, examination or investigation conducted, or mission undertaken, to the head of his office. In case of participation in an international conference or convention abroad in which the Philippines is represented by a delegation, a report of the delegation shall be submitted to the President of the Philippines through the department head concerned copy furnished the DFA not later than thirty (30) days after the closing of the conference or convention. Any member of the delegation may also submit a supplementary report.”

**SEC. 17. Repeal.** All executive issuances, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified.

**SEC. 18. Effectivity.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this **23rd** day of **March**, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 299**

**MODIFYING THE RATES OF IMPORT DUTY ON CERTAIN ARTICLES UNDER SECTION 104  
OF THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978 (PRESIDENTIAL  
DECREE NO. 1464), AS AMENDED**

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of government to provide assistance to sectors facing economic difficulties;

**WHEREAS**, the livestock and poultry sectors need assistance to bring down the costs of their inputs;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to stabilize the prices of poultry and livestock products while balancing the impact of such move to both consumers and producers;

**WHEREAS**, Section 401 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978 (Presidential Decree No. 1464), as amended, empowers the President of the Republic of the Philippines to increase, reduce, or remove existing rates of import duty, as well as to modify the form of duty and the tariff nomenclature, under Section 104 of the Code;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The articles specifically listed in Annex “A” hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be subject to the Most-Favoured-Nation (MFN) import duty indicated opposite each article.

**SECTION 2.** The nomenclature and the rates of import duty on tariff headings not enumerated and those listed but represented by the symbol “x x x” shall remain in force and in effect.

**SECTION 3.** Upon the effectivity of this Executive Order, all articles listed in Annex “A” which are entered or withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines for consumption shall be levied the MFN rates of duty therein prescribed.

**SECTION 4.** This Executive Order shall be subject to the Implementing Rules and Regulations guided by the provisions on the Minimum Access Volume (MAV) set by the Department of Agriculture.

**SECTION 5.** All Presidential issuances, administrative rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are contrary to or inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 6.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately following its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Done in the City of Manila, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of **March**, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Reference:* Annex “A”

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 300**  
**MODIFYING THE RATES OF IMPORT DUTY ON CERTAIN ARTICLES UNDER SECTION 104**  
**OF THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978 (PRESIDENTIAL**  
**DECREE NO. 1464), AS AMENDED**

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of government to provide assistance to sectors facing economic difficulties;

**WHEREAS**, the poultry and livestock sectors require assistance to bring down the costs of their inputs;

**WHEREAS**, Section 401 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978 (Presidential Decree no. 1464), as amended, empowers the President of the Republic of the Philippines to increase, reduce, or remove existing rates of import duty, as well as to modify the form of duty and the tariff nomenclature under Section 104 of the Code;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The articles specifically listed in Annex “A” hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be subject to the Most-Favoured-Nation (MFN) import duty for the period indicated in accordance with the schedule indicated opposite each article.

**SEC. 2.** The nomenclature and the rates of import duty on tariff headings not enumerated and those listed but represented by the symbol “x x x” shall remain in force and in effect.

**SEC.3.** Upon the effectivity of this Executive Order, all articles listed in Annex “A” which are entered or withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines for consumption shall be levied the MFB rates of duty therein prescribed.

**SEC. 4.** All presidential issuances, administrative rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are contrary to or inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 5.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately following its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Done in the City of Manila, this **29th** day of **March**, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Reference:* Annex “A”

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 101 - 200]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 301**

**ESTABLISHING A GREEN PROCUREMENT PROGRAM FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS, BUREAUS,  
OFFICES AND AGENCIES OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Government recognizes its lead role in protecting the environment and preserving the country's natural resources;

**WHEREAS**, the Government also recognizes, as a large consumer bloc in itself, that every product/service purchased has impact on the environment;

**WHEREAS**, Article 4 Section 27 of Republic Act 9003, otherwise known as "Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000" provides that DTI shall formulate and implement a coding system for packaging materials and products to facilitate waste recycling and reuse;

**WHEREAS**, there is an urgent need to establish an integrated program of green procurement that will bring about the recognition and rewarding of efforts of the industry sector in producing environmentally-sound products;

**WHEREAS**, a systematic and comprehensive National Ecolabelling Program is necessary to support a Green Procurement policy not only in all Government offices but with the general public as well.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I GLORIA MACAPAGAL- ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Establishment of a Green Procurement Program in all Government Agencies.*** All government departments, offices and agencies are hereby ordered to establish their respective "Green Procurement Program". The purposes of this program are as follows:

- i. To promote the culture of making environmentally- informed decisions in government, especially in the purchases and use of different products.
- ii. To include environmental criteria in public tenders, whenever possible and practicable.
- iii. To establish the specifications and requirements for products of services to be considered environmentally advantageous.
- iv. To develop incentive programs for suppliers of environmentally sound products and services.

**SEC. 2. *Implementation.*** All Departments and agencies shall submit their respective green procurement programs to the National Ecolabelling Program Board (ELPB) within 6 months from effectivity hereof. The Program shall target a timetable of full implementation within eighteen (18) months from effectivity of this Order. The ELPB shall in turn submit a regular report to the Office of the President through the President Management Staff, on the performance and compliance of the different agencies with this Order.

**SEC. 3. *Third-Party Verification.*** The ELPB shall serve as a competent third-party verifier of claims on the environmental soundness of products and services. The ELPB shall provide a list of all

certified environmentally sound products, which list shall be updated regularly to reflect additions or deletions based on criteria to be established by ELPB.

**SEC. 4. *Funding.*** Appropriate funding needed to implement the Green Procurement Program of each Department/Agency shall be taken from their respective available funds. By virtue of Republic Act 9003, the Department of Trade and Industry shall ensure allocation of funds for the operations of the Ecolabelling Program of the Philippines.

**SEC. 5. *Effectivity.*** This Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE, in the City Manila, this **29th** day of **March**, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 302**

**DECLARING AND ADOPTING THE PHILIPPINE PHARMACOPEIA AS THE OFFICIAL BOOK  
OF STANDARDS AND REFERENCE FOR PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS AND CRUDE  
PLANT DRUGS IN THE PHILIPPINES**

**WHEREAS**, it is State Policy under Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution to “protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them”;

**WHEREAS**, the 1987 Constitution also provides in Article XIII, Section 12, that: “The State shall establish and maintain an effective food and drug regulatory system and undertake appropriate health manpower development and research, responsive to the country’s health needs and problems”;

**WHEREAS**, a national pharmacopeia that adequately establishes standards for drug/drug products and crude drugs available for commerce in the Philippines is essential to the attainment of an effective regulatory and health care delivery systems and addresses the foregoing constitutional mandates;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The Philippine Pharmacopeia (PP) 1st edition April 2004 and any supplement thereto, is hereby declared and adopted as the official book of the standards and references for the determination of the identity, purity, and quality of pharmaceutical products and crude plant drugs in the Philippines.

**SECTION 2.** For pharmaceutical products and crude plant drugs that are not listed in the PP, reference may be made to the latest editions of United States Pharmacopeia/National Formulary (USP/NF), Japanese Pharmacopeia (JP), British Pharmacopeia (BP) European Pharmacopeia (EP), and International Pharmacopeia (IP) and other books of standards and references as maybe recognized and adopted by the Bureau of Food and Drugs from time to time.

**SECTION 3.** All orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 4.** This Executive Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette.

Done in the City Manila, this **29th** day of **March**, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 303**

**DIRECTING THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP), THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP), AND OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO SOURCE THEIR MUNITIONS REQUIREMENTS FROM THE GOVERNMENT ARSENAL**

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the Government to achieve self-sufficiency in small arms ammunition and munitions for the use of the country's defense forces pursuant to Republic Act No. 1884, to enhance the defense and security of the nation towards a secure environment for the Filipino people;

**WHEREAS**, the Government Arsenal (GA), which was established under the Department of National Defense pursuant to RA 1884, is appropriated a yearly budget by Congress for the manufacture of small arms ammunition and such other munitions as may be needed for the use of the Armed Forces of Philippines (AFP);

**WHEREAS**, in conjunction with RA 1884, Section 24, Chapter 3, Subtitle II, Title VIII (National Defense) of Executive Order No. 292, s. 1987, otherwise known as the Administrative Code of 1987, stipulates that the Government Arsenal shall, among other, "...procure, stockpile and allocate arms, mortars and other weapons and munitions without the necessity of obtaining any permits or licenses; and devise ways and means for the efficient mobilization of civilian industry to augment the production of the Arsenal in time of emergency."

**WHEREAS**, Section 12 of Republic Act No. 7898, otherwise known as the AFP Modernization Act, provides, among other, that the Government Arsenal shall be effectively utilized in the production of basic weapons, ammunition and other munitions for the use of AFP and the Philippine National Police (PNP), and for the sale and export of products of AFP/PNP requirements;

**WHEREAS**, RA 7898 further authorizes the Government Arsenal to use such production facilities as it may own or be provided with, or as it may arrange under a joint venture, co-production, or similar agreements with local and foreign entities for the modernization and operation of small arms ammunition plants and for the establishment of other defense manufacturing plants;

**WHEREAS**, for the purpose of enhancing defense self-reliance conserving foreign exchange and securing a local market base so as to ensure the viability of any Joint Venture which the Government Arsenal may undertake pursuant to RA 7898, it is in the best interest of the Government to require both the AFP and PNP, as well as other government agencies, to procure their ammunition and other munitions requirements through the Government Arsenal;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Sourcing the Government Munitions Requirements.*** The AFP, PNP, and other government agencies are hereby directed to source their small arms ammunition and such other munitions requirements as may be available from the Government Arsenal;

**SEC. 2. *Repealing Clause.*** All executive orders, administrative rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this order are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

**SEC. 3. *Effectivity.*** This Order takes effect immediately.

**DONE**, in the City of Manila, this **29th** day of **March**, in the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 304**  
**DESIGNATING KORONADAL CITY AS THE REGIONAL CENTER AND**  
**SEAT OF SOCCSKSARGEN**

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the State to institute changes in exiting administration structure of government according to the changing requirements of the country and of the administrative regions;

**WHEREAS**, Section 4 of Executive Order No. 36 dated September 19, 2001, reorganized Region XII as SOCCSKSARGEN Region composed of the Province of North Cotabato, Sarangani, South Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, and the Cities of Cotabato City, General Santos City, Kidapawan City, Koronadal City and Tacurong City;

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 36 did not specify the regional seat of SOCCSKSARGEN Region;

**WHEREAS**, the political and socio-economic conditions in SOCCSKSARGEN Region point to the need for designating the regional center and seat of the region to improve government operations and services.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. Koronadal City as Regional Center and Seat.** The Regional Center and Seat of SOCCSKSARGEN Region shall be Koronadal City.

**SEC. 2. Transfer of Regional Offices.** All departments, bureaus and offices of the National Government in the SOCCSKSARGEN Region shall transfer their regional seat of operations to Koronadal City.

**SEC. 3. Repealing Clause.** All executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 4. Effectivity.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon approval of this Order.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 30th day of March, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 305**  
DEVOLVING TO MUNICIPAL AND CITY GOVERNMENTS THE REGISTRATION OF FISHING  
VESSELS THREE (3) GROSS TONNAGE BELOW

**WHEREAS**, the Maritime Authority (MARINA) is mandated under Section 12 (f) of Executive Order No. 125, as amended by Executive Order No. 125-A, to register vessels;

**WHEREAS**, The Philippines Coast Guard (PCG) has been deputized by the MARINA to register fishing vessels three (3) gross tonnage and below pursuant to Department Order No. 98-1180 of the Department of Transportation and Communication and MARINA Memorandum Circular No. 139;

**WHEREAS**, Section 149 (3) of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, provides that the Sangguniang Bayan shall issue licenses for the operation of fishing vessels three (3) gross tonnage or less, and Section 16, 17 and 18 of RA No. 8550, otherwise known as the “Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998”, provide that the LGU shall have the Jurisdiction on municipal water;

**WHEREAS**, the marginalized fisherfolks nationwide are faced with the difficulty of registration of fishing vessels three (3) gross tonnage and below with the national government, especially in areas where the PCG offices are inaccessible;

**WHEREAS**, the League of Municipalities of the Philippines, the League of Cities of the Philippines and the National Anti-Poverty Commission Fisherfolk Sectoral Council strongly recommend that the authority to undertake the registration of fishing vessels three (3) gross tonnage and below presently being performed by the PCG by authority of MARINA be devolved to the LGUs in line with their mandates under R.A. 7160 and R.A. No. 8550.

**NOW THEREFORE, I GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

Section 1. **Devolution to Local Government Units.** The Municipal/City Governments shall undertake the registration of fishing vessels three (3) gross tonnage and below. Said LGUs, in consultation with the Municipal/City Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Management Council (FARMC), shall enact ordinance prescribing the procedures for registration and imposing penalties for non-registration.

Section 2. **Transition Period.** There shall be a transition period not to exceed the one (1) year of effectivity hereof, during which time the Municipal/City Governments shall train the technical personnel with the assistance of the MARINA and PCG and prepare the appropriate officers for the full discharge of this devolved functions. The DOTC, through the MARINA and PCG, is hereby directed to extend its assistance and support to ensure that the services needed by the public are not disrupted.

Section 3. **Record Keeping and Submission of Reports.** The Municipal/City shall maintain up-to-date records of fishing vessels (3) gross tonnage and below under their jurisdiction, and regularly

submit to the MARINA Regional Office concerned, the PCG Station/Detachment and DA-BFAR the list of vessels registered

Section 4. **Implementing Guidelines**. The Department of Justice, Department of the Interior and Local Government, Department of Transportation and Communications, Department of Agriculture-Bureau of fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Maritime Industry Authority, Philippine Coast Guard, PNP Maritime Group, NAPC-Fisherfolk Sector, the League of the Municipalities of the Philippines and League Cities of the Philippines, shall jointly formulate the guidelines to implement this Order.

Section 5. **Repealing Clause**. All Executive Orders, Department Orders, Memorandum Circular, Rules and Regulations or parts thereof contrary to or inconsistent with this Executive Order and its implementing Guidelines are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 6. **Effectivity**. This Executive Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette, or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation and upon its filing with the Office of the National Administrative Register.

Done in the City of Manila, Philippines, this **2nd** day of **April**, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 306**  
**INSTITUTING MEASURES TO PROMOTE LAWFUL USE OF GOVERNMENT-ISSUED**  
**IDENTITY DOCUMENTS AND PREVENT VIOLATIONS OF LAWS INVOLVING**  
**FALSE NAMES AND IDENTITIES**

**WHEREAS**, The department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) issues passports containing the passport holder's photograph and biographic data, pursuant to the Philippine Passport Act of 1996 (RA No. 8239), which provides that a passport is an official document that is superior to all other official documents;

**WHEREAS**, the Land Transportation Office (LTO) issues driver's licenses containing the license holder's photograph and biographic data, and the Social Security System (SSS) issues identity cards containing the member's photograph and biographic data;

**WHEREAS**, The use of passports, driver's licenses and identity cards issued by the above government agencies should be promoted and said identity documents should be used to prevent violations of the following laws involving false names and identities:

- (a) the Anti-Money Laundering Act of 2002 (Republic Act [RA] No. 9160, as amended), which requires banks and other covered institutions to established and record the true identity of their clients based on official documents;
- (b) the Revised Penal Code (Act of 3815, as amended) which penalizes the public use of a fictitious name for the purpose of concealing a crime, evading the execution of a judgment, or causing of damage (1<sup>st</sup> paragraph, Art 178), the concealment of a person's true name and other personal circumstances (2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, Art. 178), and the act of defrauding another by using a fictitious name (4<sup>th</sup> paragraph, Art. 315);
- (c) the Civil Code of the Philippines (RA No. 386, as amended), which prohibits the use of different names and surnames, except for pen and stage names (Art. 379 and 380);
- (d) the Philippine Immigration Act of 1940 (Commonwealth Act No. 613, as amended), which penalizes any individual who shall be evade the immigration laws by appearing under an assumed or fictitious name (Sec. 45);
- (e) the Tax Reform Act of 1997 (RA No. 8424), as amended, which made it unlawful for any person to enter any false or fictitious name in a taxpayer's books of accounts or records;
- (f) Presidential Decree No. 1829, which penalizes any individual who shall knowingly or willfully obstruct, impede, frustrate or delay the apprehension of suspects and the investigation and prosecution of criminal cases by publicly using a fictitious name for the purpose of concealing a crime evading prosecution or the execution of a judgment, or concealing his true name and other personal circumstances for the same purpose (Sec. 1[d]); and
- (g) Commonwealth Act No. 142, as amended by RA No. 6085, which penalizes any person who shall use any name different from the one with which he was registered at birth in the office of the local civil registry, or with which he was baptized for the first time, or with which he was registered in the Bureau of Immigration, or such substitute name as may have been authorized by a competent court (Sec. 1);

NOW, THEREFORE, I GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order all government departments and agencies to require, for transactions requiring the production of identity documents, Filipino citizens and resident aliens to present any of the following:

- (1) Valid Passport issued by the Department Foreign Affairs (DFA);
- (2) Valid driver's license issued by the Land of Transportation Office (LTO);
- (3) Valid member's identity card issued by the Social Security System (SSS); and
- (4) Valid "non-driver's identity document (ID)" issued by LTO.

Filipino citizens and resident aliens who do not possess any of the identity documents enumerated in paragraph (1) through (3) may apply with LTO for the issuance of a "non-driver's identity document (ID)."

All executive orders or issuances, or portions thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked, amended or modified accordingly.

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, April 2, 2004

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 307**  
EXPANDING ACCESS TO POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION THROUGH THE  
“ISKOLAR NG MAHIRAP NA PAMILYA” PROGRAM, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR,  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

**WHEREAS**, it has been the declared policy of the state to promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the development of the country and the liberation of the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote a rising standard of living, and improve the quality of life of the people;

**WHEREAS**, it is the enshrined duty of the state to protect the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels, take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all, and maintain a system of scholarship grants, student subsidies and other incentives to deserving students especially to those in the underprivileged sectors of society;

**WHEREAS**, a significant proportion of the school going age of the population is unable to access to post-secondary education due to inadequate academic preparation of financial resources;

**WHEREAS**, to further encourage every indigent family to send at least one (1) child to post-secondary education, there is an urgent and compelling need to expand access and opportunity to the poorest of the poor families through a scholarship program under the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Technical Education Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. There is hereby created a scholarship program to be known as the “ISKOLAR NG MAHIRAP NA PAMILYA” PROGRAM for the poorest of the poor families living below the poverty line to benefit one (1) grantee per family.

SECTION 2. The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Department of Health (DOH)/Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC) are hereby tasked to identify the poorest of the poor families nationwide based on the now available listing of indigent families.

SECTION 3. The CHED and TESDA shall jointly formulate the implementing guidelines or program mechanics of the “ISKOLAR NG MAHIRAP NA PAMILYA” PROGRAM in consultation with the DepEd, NEDA, DSWD, DOH, DILG and other concerned stakeholders for implementation in the coming school year.

SECTION 4. The CHED and TESDA shall issue the certificates/vouchers that will entitle each of the qualified poorest families to one scholarship certificate/voucher equivalent to P10,000.00 (Ten Thousand Pesos) per target scholar per annum for a period of two (2) years, in the case of TESDA, or four (4) years, in the case of CHED.

SECTION 5. The amount necessary for the initial operation of the “ISKOLAR NG MAHIRAP NA PAMILYA” PROGRAM shall be taken from any applicable source under the CY 2004 General

Appropriations Act or from any applicable funding source to cover the initial funding requirement of the Program, subject to existing laws, rules and regulations. For the succeeding fiscal year, such amounts as may be necessary for the budgetary requirement of the Program shall be provided for in the annual General Appropriations Act in the budgets of CHED and TESDA.

SECTION 6. If any provision of this Executive Order shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions shall remain effective.

SECTION 7. All laws, orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 8. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 308**  
**ALLOWING CERTAIN BARANGAY OFFICIALS TO BECOME MEMBERS OF THE**  
**PAG-IBIG FUND ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS**

**WHEREAS**, the Government recognizes that shelter is a basic need for which low and middle income families require assistance and support;

**WHEREAS**, the Government has approved a six-year National Shelter Program which aims at providing increased levels of such assistance on a nationwide basis;

**WHEREAS**, Section 2 (a) of Executive Order No. 90, provides that:

“(a) Home Development Mutual Fund – The Home Development Mutual Fund will continue to administer provident fund contributions collected from member employees and employers, utilizing funds not required for provident benefits for housing loans for members, and in addition, will be charged with the development of saving schemes for home acquisition by private and government employees.”

**WHEREAS**, Section 1 of Republic Act No. 7742 (An Act Amending Presidential Decree No. 1752, as amended), provides that:

“Section 1. Section 4 of Presidential Decree No. 1752, as amended, which was repealed by Executive Order No. 90, is hereby reinstated, with amendments, to read as follows:

‘SEC. 4. *Fund Coverage.* – Coverage of the Fund shall be mandatory upon all employees covered by the Social Security System and the Government Service Insurance System, and their respective employers: Provided, however, That coverage of the employees whose Monthly Compensation is less than Four thousand pesos (P4,000.00) shall be voluntary: *Provided, further*, That upon membership with the Fund, their employers shall contribute an amount in accordance with Section 5 of this Act.’”

**WHEREAS**, Barangay Chairman and their respective Barangay Councilors govern the basic political units of our local governments, and receive honoraria as their compensation for public service;

**WHEREAS**, Joint Circular No. 1 s. 2004 of the Civil Service Commission and the Department of Budget and Management recognize the leave privileges of barangay officials, and the honorarium received in accordance with law and Local Budget Circular No. 63 dated October 22, 1996 is treated as fixed salary;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. Honoraria Treated as Salary.** – For purposes of Republic Act No. 7742, the honoraria of Barangay Chairmen, Barangay Council Members, including Chairmen of the Sanggunian Kabataan (SK), barangay secretaries and treasurers shall be considered as salary.

**SECTION 2. Employees' Contribution.** – Pursuant to the six-year National Shelter Program of the Government, the membership contribution to the Home Development Mutual Fund of all Barangay Chairmen, Barangay Council Members, including the SK Chairmen, barangay secretaries and treasurers who have applied and qualified as members on a voluntary basis shall be deducted by their respective barangays from the monthly honoraria they receive in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 7742 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations.

**SECTION 3. Employers' Contribution.** – The employers' counterpart contribution shall be provided and sourced from local funds of the respective barangays having such Pag-IBIG Fund members duly appropriated for said purpose by the respective sangguniang barangays concerned, in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 7742 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations, but in no case to exceed the personal services cap in accordance with Section 325 (a) of the Local Government Code.

**SECTION 4. Applicability of RA 7742.** – All pertinent provisions of Republic Act No. 7742 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations shall apply to the Barangay Chairmen and Barangay Council Members, including SK Chairmen, barangay secretaries and treasurers who have become members of the Pag-IBIG Fund on a voluntary basis, granting them rights and privileges as provided for under the law.

**SECTION 5. Repealing Clause.** – All orders, rules or regulations, or any part thereof, inconsistent with any provision of this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 6. Effectivity.** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 23rd day of April, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 309**  
**PROVIDING FOR THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE PHILIPPINE RICE**  
**POSTPRODUCTION CONSORTIUM**

**WHEREAS**, the Government is committed to pursue agricultural modernization as a strategy for accelerating and sustaining economic development particularly in the countryside;

**WHEREAS**, in view of the importance of reducing postproduction losses, ten percent of the budget for the implementation of the Agriculture and Fishery Modernization Act of 1997 or AFMA (R.A. 8435) is allocated for postharvest concerns;

**WHEREAS**, a Memorandum of Agreement executed on 2 July 1999, by and among the Bureau of Postharvest Research and Extension (BPRE), International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), National Food Authority (NFA), Philippine Rice Research Institute (PHILRICE) and the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB), established the Philippine Rice Postproduction Consortium, otherwise known as PRPC, formalizing the collaboration of consortium members in the area of postproduction research and extension to enhance the development of the rice postproduction industry in the Philippines;

**WHEREAS**, the National Agricultural and Fishery Council (NAFC) was included as the sixth member of the consortium, per PRPC Resolution No. 2003-01 dated 24 July 2003;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need for a permanent collaboration among the PRPC member institutions under the Department of Agriculture for policy coordination and fiscal support to enhance the effectiveness and sustain the operations of the consortium in pursuit of the government's agricultural development goals and objectives;

**WHEREAS**, under the Administrative Code of 1987, the President has the continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the Executive Branch of Government;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Institutionalization.*** The Philippine Rice Postproduction Consortium, also known as PRPC, is hereby institutionalized under the Department of Agriculture to be composed of NFA, PHILRICE, UPLB, BPRE, and NAFC.

**SEC. 2. *Functions of PRPC.*** The PRPC shall identify, coordinate and pursue priority areas of collaboration among its member institutions, in the area of research and development and extension (R, D & E) to enhance the development of the rice production industry in the Philippines.

It shall likewise extend its collaboration with relevant government agencies, State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), Local Government Units (LGUs), the private sector, including foreign counterpart or donor institutions.

**SEC. 3. *Executive Committee.*** The consortium shall be governed by an Executive Committee with the Secretary of Agriculture as Chair and the heads of PRPC member institutions as members.

The Executive Committee of PRPC shall, within 60 days upon effectivity of this Order, formulate and adopt implementing policies and guidelines governing the operations of the consortium in accordance with existing laws.

**SEC. 4. *Funding.*** The Department of Agriculture and the PRPC member institutions shall provide funding support for consortium projects and activities relevant to the mandates of the PRPC member institutions.

**SEC. 5. *Repeal.*** All orders, rules, regulations and issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 6. *Effectivity.*** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE**, in the City of Manila, this **20th** day of **April**, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 310**

**PRESCRIBING THE DESIGN AND USE OF THE COAT-OF-ARMS, SEAL, AND FLAG OF THE  
PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**WHEREAS**, the design and use of the coat-of-arms, seal, and flag of the President and the Vice President of the Philippines were established by Executive Order No. 38 dated January 7, 1947, as amended by Executive Order No. 457 dated July 4, 1951, and Executive Order No. 19 dated August 27, 1998, in order to provide a symbol appropriate for the dignity and history of the Presidency and Vice Presidency of the country.

**WHEREAS**, these symbols are exclusively meant for the use of the President and Vice President of the Philippines and no other officials;

**WHEREAS**, it is in the national interest to promulgate regulations that enhance the effective use of these symbols and the proper respect due the same;

**WHEREAS**, the issuance of this Executive Order is recommended by the Presidential Assistant for Historical Affairs, with the conformity of the Office of the Vice President of the Philippines and the National Historical Institute;

**NOW, THEREFORE I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law and upon the recommendation of the Presidential Assistant for Historical Affairs do hereby order:

**Section 1. *The Coat-of-Arms, Seal, and Flag of the President of the Philippines.***

a. The Coat-Of-Arms of the President of the Philippines shall be of the following design:

A circular blue shield with an eight-rayed golden-yellow Philippine sun at the center. Overlapping the Philippine sun is a red equilateral triangle. Inside and at the center of the equilateral triangle is the traditional golden-yellow sea lion (Utramara) of the Coat-Of-Arms granted to the City of Manila in 1596, on guard with a sword on its right paw, at hilt.

Inside and at the corner of each of the three (3) angles of the equilateral triangle, a five-pointed golden-yellow star to represent Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao, respectively.

The elements enumerated above are encircled at the outer edge of the blue shield by five-pointed golden-yellow stars, with one point of each star pointing outward on the imaginary radiating center lines, the number of stars conforming to the number of provinces of the Republic of the Philippines at any given time.

An illustration of the Coat-Of-Arms of the President of the Philippine shown in its proper colors is attached as Annex "A" and made an integral part hereof.

b. The Seal of the President of the Philippines shall consist of the Coat-Of-Arms of the President of the Philippines, and a white circle around the Coat-of-Arms enclosed by two (2) golden-yellow marginal rings. The white circle shall contain the words "Sagisag ng Pangulo ng Pilipinas" in black letters on the upper arc, the lower arc divided by three (3) five-pointed golden-yellow stars.

An illustration of the Seal of the President of the Philippines shown in its proper colors is attached as Annex “B” and made an integral part hereof.

c. The Flag of the President of the Philippines shall consist of the Coat-of-Arms of the President in proper colors, with a rectangular blue background (instead of the circular blue shield). The shade of the blue background shall conform to the blue color of the National Flag enumerated in Republic Act No. 8491, the Flag and Heraldic Code of the Philippines. The fringe shall be of knotted yellow silk. The ratio of the Flag shall be 1:2.

An illustration of the Flag of the President of the Philippines shown in its proper colors is attached as Annex “C” and made an integral part hereof.

### ***Section 2. The Coat-of-Arms, Seal, and Flag of the Vice President of the Philippines.***

a. The Coat-of-Arms of the Vice President of the Philippines shall be of the following design:

A circular white shield with an eight-rayed golden-yellow Philippine sun at the center. Overlapping the Philippine sun is a red equilateral triangle. Inside and at the center of the equilateral triangle is the traditional golden-yellow sea lion (Ultramar) of the Coat-of-Arms granted to the City of Manila in 1596, on guard with a sword on its right paw, at hilt. Inside and at the corner of each of the three (3) angles of the equilateral triangle, a five-pointed golden-yellow star to represent Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao, respectively.

An illustration of the Coat-of-Arms of the Vice President of the Philippines shown in its proper colors is attached as Annex “D” and made an integral part hereof.

b. The Seal of the Vice president of the Philippines shall consist of the Coat-of-Arms of the Vice President of the Philippines, and a blue circle around the Coat-of-Arms. The blue circle shall contain the words “Sagisag ng Pangalawang Pangulo ng Pilipinas” in white letters on the upper arc, the lower arc divided by one (1) five-pointed white star.

An illustration of the Seal of the Vice President of the Philippines shown in its proper colors is attached as Annex “E” and made an integral part hereof.

c. The Flag of the Vice President of the Philippines shall consist of the Coat-of-Arms of the Vice President in proper colors, with a rectangular white background (instead of the circular white shield). The fringe shall be of knotted yellow silk. The ratio of the Flag shall be 1:2.

An illustration of the Flag of the Vice President of the Philippines shown in its proper colors is attached as Annex “F” and made an integral part hereof.

***Section 3. Permitted and Prohibited Uses of the Heraldic Symbols of the President and the Vice President of the Philippines.*** Except as otherwise provided by law or Presidential issuance, the Coat-of-Arms, Seal, and Flag of the President of the Philippines or of the Vice President of the Philippines shall be exclusively used to represent the President of the Philippines or the Vice President of the Philippines, respectively.

Except as used by the President of the Philippines or the Vice President of the Philippines or as may otherwise be provided by law or by Presidential issuance, the manufacture, reproduction, sale, purchase for sale, use, display, or possession in commercial quantity of the Coat-of-Arms, Seal, and/or Flag of the President of the Philippines or of the Vice President of the Philippines, respectively, or any likeness or substantial part thereof, shall be permitted only for the following uses:



- 
- a. Use in encyclopedias, dictionaries, books, journals, pamphlets, periodicals, or magazines incident to a description or history of coats-of-arms, seals, flags, heraldry, or the Philippine Presidency or Vice Presidency;
  - b. Use in libraries, museums, or educational facilities incident to descriptions or exhibits relating to coats-of-arms, seals, flags, heraldry, or the Philippine Presidency or Vice Presidency;
  - c. Use as an architectural embellishment in libraries, museums, monuments or archives established to house the papers or effects of former or incumbent Presidents or Vice Presidents of the Philippines;
  - d. Use by way of photographic or electronic visual reproduction in pictures, moving pictures, telecasts, or otherwise of bona fide news content;
  - e. Such other uses for exceptional historical, educational, or newsworthy purposes as may be authorized in writing by the Office of Presidential Protocol.

Furthermore, the use of stationery, business cards, identification cards, or any other items containing the Coat-of-Arms, Seal and/or Flag of the President or of the Vice President of the Philippines, respectively, or any likeness or substantial part thereof, by person other than the President or the Vice-President of the Philippines is strictly prohibited.

**Section 4. *Penalties.*** Any violation of the provisions of this Executive Order shall be severely dealt with administratively, civilly, and criminally.

**Section 5. *Implementation.*** The Office of Presidential Protocol, in consultation with the National Historical Institute, shall prepare the Implementing Rules and Regulations of this Executive Order in the form of a comprehensive usage manual, which shall be subject to the approval of the Office of the President.

The comprehensive usage manual shall include a single reference for all standards and aspects of the nomenclature and graphic representation for the reproduction of the Coat-of-Arms, Seal, and Flag of the President and of the Vice President of the Philippines, templates for stationery, business cards, and publications, information on electronic design, and application to collateral materials and signage, among others.

The Office of Presidential Protocol shall be responsible for providing the comprehensive usage manual, or a simplified version thereof, to the concerned government agencies for implementation by all relevant government agencies.

The National Printing Office and the Philippine Information Agency are hereby directed to immediately use the correct graphic representation as provided in this Executive Order and /or its Implementing Rules and Regulations upon the effectivity hereof.

**Section 6. *Repealing Clause.*** Executive Order No. 38 dated January 7, 1947, as amended by Executive Order No. 457 dated July 4 1951, and Executive Order No. 19 dated August 17, 1998, are hereby repealed.

All other Presidential directives, issuances, orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, insofar as they are inconsistent with this Executive Order are likewise hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**Section 7. *Effectivity.*** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon its publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 20th day of April, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*References:* Annexes A, B, C, D, E, and F

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 311**

DESIGNATING THE OFFICE FOR TRANSPORTATION SECURITY AS THE SINGLE AUTHORITY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SECURITY OF THE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS OF THE COUNTRY, EXPANDING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

**WHEREAS**, the State is committed to the maintenance of safe and dependable transportation systems as effective instruments for national recovery and economic progress;

**WHEREAS**, recent international and domestic events are stark reminders that the nation must constantly be vigilant to prevent weapons, explosives, other dangerous elements or devices, hazardous materials and cargoes, which may be used to commit an act of terrorism and the carriage or bearing of which is not authorized, from being introduced into and carried on board a public transport system;

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to formulate, implement and coordinate transportation security measures, programs, plans and activities which will enhance the security and safety of the transportation systems of the country;

**WHEREAS**, to ensure the effective and efficient implementation and coordination of transportation security measures, there is a need for a single authority which shall be responsible therefor;

**WHEREAS**, by virtue of Executive Order No. 277 dated January 30, 2004, the Office for Transportation Security was created under the DOTC to exercise primary responsibility for the implementation of Annex 17 of the International Civil Aviation Organization Convention on aviation security;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, the President has the continuing authority to recognize the administrative structure of the Office of the President.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Single Authority.*** – The Office for Transportation Security (OTS) is hereby designated as the single authority responsible for the security of the transportation systems of the country, including, but not limited to:

- a. Civil Aviation, by ensuring that Annex 17 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, as amended, commonly referred to as the Standards and Recommended Practices on Security and as enumerated in the Security Manual for Safeguarding International Civil Aviation Against Acts of Unlawful Interference, as well as the National Civil Aviation Security Programme (NCASP) are implemented;
- b. Sea Transport and Maritime Infrastructure, by ensuring that the International Maritime Organization International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS) is implemented, and that a National Security Programme for Sea Transport and Maritime Infrastructure is formulated, developed and implemented; and

- 
- c. Land Transportation, Rail System and Infrastructure, by ensuring that a National Security Programme for Land Transportation, Rail System and Infrastructure is formulated, developed and implemented.

**SECTION 2. *Powers and Functions.*** – The OTS shall exercise the following powers and functions:

- a. Assume the functions of the National Civil Aviation Security Committee (NCASC) enumerated in Section 4 of Executive Order No. 277 dated January 30, 2004 as well as all other powers and functions of the NCASC subject, however, to Section 3 of this Executive Order;
  - b. Exercise operational control and supervision over all units of law enforcement agencies and agency personnel providing security services in the transportation systems, except for motor vehicles in land transportation, jointly with the heads of the bureaus or agencies to which the units or personnel organically belong or are assigned;
  - c. Exercise responsibility for transportation security operations including, but not limited to, security screening of passengers, baggage and cargoes, and hiring, retention, training and testing of security screening personnel;
  - d. In coordination with the appropriate agencies and/or instrumentalities of the government, formulate, develop, promulgate and implement comprehensive security plans, policies, measures, strategies and programs to ably and decisively deal with any threat to the security of transportation systems, and continually review, assess and upgrade such security plans, policies, measures, strategies and programs, to improve and enhance transportation security and ensure the adequacy of these security measures;
  - e. Examine and audit the performance of transportation security personnel, equipment and facilities, and, thereafter, establish, on a continuing basis, performance standards for such personnel, equipment and facilities, including for the training of personnel;
  - f. Prepare a security manual/master plan or programme which shall prescribe the rules and regulations for the efficient and safe operation of all transportation systems, including standards for security screening procedures, prior screening or profiling of individuals for the issuance of security access passes, and determination of levels of security clearances for personnel of the OTS, the DOTC and its attached agencies, and other agencies of the government;
  - g. Prescribe security and safety standards for all transportation systems in accordance with existing laws, rules, regulations and international conventions;
  - h. Subject to the approval of the Secretary of the DOTC, issue Transportation Security Regulations/Rules and amend, rescind or revise such regulations or rules as may be necessary for the security of the transportation systems of the country;
  - i. Enlist the assistance of any department, bureau, office, instrumentality, or government-owned or controlled corporation, to carry out its functions and mandate including, but not limited to, the use of their respective personnel, facilities and resources;
  - j. Actively coordinate with law enforcement agencies in the investigation and prosecution of any illegal act or unlawful interference committed at or directed to any public transportation system;
  - k. Perform such other functions necessary to effectively carry out the provisions of this Executive Order or as may be directed by the Secretary of the DOTC.
-

**SECTION 3. *National Civil Aviation Security Committee; Secretariat.*** – The NCASC shall henceforth act as an advisory body to and consultative forum for the Secretary of the DOTC in matters relative civil aviation security. For this purpose, the NCASC is hereby transferred from the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) to the DOTC, and is hereby reconstituted and shall be composed of the following:

|                                                                              |               |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Secretary, DOTC                                                              | Chairman      |
| Secretary, DILG                                                              | Vice-Chairman |
| Undersecretary, Office for Transportation Security                           | Member        |
| Assistant Secretary, Air Transportation Office                               | Member        |
| General Manager, Manila International Airport Authority                      | Member        |
| General Manager, Mactan-Cebu International Airport Authority                 | Member        |
| General Manager, Clark International Airport Corporation                     | Member        |
| General Manager, Subic Bay International Airport Authority                   | Member        |
| Manager, Davao International Airport                                         | Member        |
| Manager, General Santos International Airport                                | Member        |
| Manager, Laoag International Airport                                         | Member        |
| Manager, Zamboanga International Airport                                     | Member        |
| Director, Philippine National Police Aviation Security Group                 | Member        |
| Commissioner, Bureau of Customs                                              | Member        |
| Commissioner, Bureau of Immigration                                          | Member        |
| Administrator, Philippine Overseas Employment Administration                 | Member        |
| Administrator, Overseas Workers Welfare Administration                       | Member        |
| Executive Director, Department of Tourism                                    | Member        |
| Protocol Officer, Department of Foreign Affairs                              | Member        |
| Director, National Bureau of Investigation                                   | Member        |
| Group Commander, Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines | Member        |
| Director General, National Intelligence Coordinating Agency                  | Member        |
| Group Commander, Presidential Security Group                                 | Member        |
| Director, Bureau of Plant Industry                                           | Member        |
| Director, Bureau of Animal Industry                                          | Member        |
| Chief Superintendent, Bureau of Fire Protection                              | Member        |
| Director, Bureau of Quarantine and International Health Surveillance         | Member        |

The OTS shall continue to serve as the Secretariat of the NCASC and qualified DILG personnel performing secretariat functions for the NCASC shall have the option to transfer to the DOTC and be absorbed by the OTS.

**SECTION 4. *Security Committees.*** – The Secretary of the DOTC shall have the power to create other security committees, composed of concerned agencies of the government and stakeholders, which shall provide assistance in the formulation, development and implementation of national security programmes for sea transport and maritime infrastructure and for land transportation, rail system and infrastructure.

**SECTION 5. *Funding.*** – The amount necessary for the initial operation and administration for the OTS shall be chargeable against funds for the purpose and other sources recommended by the

Department of Budget and Management. Thereafter, appropriations for the OTS shall be included in the budget proposals under the DOTC.

**SECTION 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Executive Order and subject to the approval of the Secretary of the DOTC, the OTS shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this Executive Order.

**SECTION 7. *Repeal.*** – Executive Order No. 277 dated January 30, 2004 is hereby modified accordingly. All other orders, rules, regulations and issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 8. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, 26th day of April, 2004

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 312**

PROVIDING AMENDMENTS TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 244, S. 2003, “MODIFYING THE RATES OF DUTY ON MOTOR VEHICLES, AS PROVIDED FOR UNDER THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978 (PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1464, AS AMENDED), IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT PREFERENTIAL RATES THEREON UNDER THE AUTOMOTIVE EXPORT PROGRAM.”

**WHEREAS**, the government issued Executive Order No. (E.O.) 156, series of 2002, establishing a Comprehensive Industrial Policy and Directions for the Motor Vehicle Development Program to develop the Philippines as the manufacturing hub in ASEAN for certain motor vehicles, parts and components;

**WHEREAS**, an integral component of the Comprehensive Motor Vehicle Development Program under E.O. 156 is the provision of special export incentives to the automotive sector;

**WHEREAS**, Pursuant to E.O. 156, E.O. 244, series of 2003, was issued providing special incentives for the export of certain completely built-up units (CBUs) of motor vehicles;

**WHEREAS**, the expansion of exports of motor vehicles translates to improved economies of scale leading to increased global competitiveness of the automotive industry;

**WHEREAS**, the recent and on-going developments on regional integration of the automotive sector, especially in the ASEAN, create an environment opportune for the manufacture of other CBUs of motor vehicles in the country primarily for export, provided incentives under E.O. 244 are extended to these types of activities;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby amend E.O. 244 and order the following:

**SECTION 1.** The whole of Annex “B” (Conditions for the Automotive Export Program) is hereby amended as follows:

**Definitions**

Categories of CBU exports are hereby defined as follows:

1. Regular CBU exports – direct CBU exports of high volume vehicles at a minimum total yearly volume of 10,000 units at minimum FOB value of US\$5,000 per unit.
2. Developmental CBU exports – direct CBU export of developmental vehicles, which vehicles are completely new basic models designed to be produced in the Philippines primarily for exclusive export at least to ASEAN at a minimum total yearly volume of 5,000 units at minimum FOB value of US\$5,000 per unit.

3. Niche CBU exports – direct CBU export of low volume niche vehicles, which vehicles are existing basic and/or variant models currently not assembled in the country, the existing facilities of which are to be relocated for exclusive assembly in the country at a minimum total yearly volume of 2,500 units at minimum FOB value of US\$10,000 per unit. Niche CBU exports will only be granted incentives from the time that the models or variant becomes exclusively assembled in the Philippines.
4. High-value, low volume CBU exports – direct CBU export of high-end motor vehicles at a minimum volume of 2,500 units at a minimum FOB value of US\$20,000 per unit.

### General

1. The Program is open to all participants of the Motor Vehicle Development Program.
2. The Participant may engage in any or all of the categories of CBU exports as herein defined.
3. The program calls for the availment of preferential tariff rates by participants in their importation of CBUs on the basis of equivalent foreign exchange earnings from their exports of CBUs.
4. The imported CBUs must not be locally assembled (model and/or variant importations are less than 1,000 units per year in Year 2003) and the participating company owns the brands.
5. The availment of preferential tariff rates is contingent upon export performance on a yearly basis. A Program participant's export performance in a specific category shall be evaluated independent of its performance in other categories. A Program participant will thus not be allowed to compensate for its failure to meet the minimum export volume or value in one category by applying exports of models or variants in another category.
6. A qualified participant will be allowed to import CBUs under the Program at an annual volume equal to or less than the sum of 1,000 units per model and/or variant that it seeks to import. A Program participant shall be allowed to import a combination of models and variant provided the annual volume does not exceed the aforementioned limit. The net foreign exchange earning (NFEE) chargeable against imports (CIF basis) on a per unit basis shall continue until the credit is exhausted after which the Program participant shall pay the normal tariff rates on its imports.
7. The NFEE per unit is phased down over a period of 5 years as shown below.

### Qualified Export Products

1. Direct CBU exports in accordance with the category of registration.
2. The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)/Board of Investments (BOI) during the effectivity of the Program may modify the minimum volume and FOB value per unit as the need arises upon consultation with industry and concerned government agencies.

### Net Foreign Exchange Earnings (NFEE) Schedule

|                 | Years 1-2 | Year 3  | Year 4  | Year 5  | Year 6 |
|-----------------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| CBU Export/Unit | US\$400   | US\$300 | US\$200 | US\$100 | US\$0  |



### Mechanism

1. The Program will be made available to qualified MVDP participants on an annualized basis for a period of 5 years on a moving basis.
2. Qualified MVDP participants may register with the Program any time within the Program period.
3. An equivalent NFEE (shown in the schedule above) will be credited to the Program participant for every unit of CBU exported according to category. For CBU export with FOB value of less than the minimum value according to the category, no NFEE will be credited.
4. Importation at preferential tariff rate under Program will require the following corresponding NFEE:

#### NFEE Requirement

|                                             |                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| For HS Heading with regular MFN rate of 30% | Equivalent to 20% of the CIF value of importation |
| For HS Heading with regular MFN rate of 20% | Equivalent to 10% of the CIF value of importation |
| For HS Heading with regular CEPT rate of 5% | Equivalent to 4% of the CIF value of importation  |

5. An import Authority will be issued to a Program participant by BOI. Once the NFEE is exhausted, no Import Authority will be issued to the participant, hence, should the participant decide to import the same, the corresponding regular tariff rate is applied to such importation.

### Other Conditions

1. The NFEE per CBU unit exported is independent of the FOB value if higher than the minimum FOB value specified in the category.
2. No NFEE is given to a unit exported at less than FOB value specified in the category.
3. The NFEE shall only be used against import duties.
4. Failure to meet the minimum yearly export volumes and value per CBU unit required in the category on any given year shall subject the participant to the payment of normal MFN and/or CEPT tariff rates including adjustments in VAT plus penalties under existing Customs and Revenue rules and regulations from the time of entry into Customs territories for that particular year.
5. Unutilized NFEE may be carried forward until the end of the Program. At the end of the Program (end of year 5), participants shall be given two (2) years to use the unutilized NFEE, after which the NFEE would be invalidated (no monetary value). No unutilized NFEE can be converted to cash or to be used for other payments to government.
6. Once the NFEE is exhausted at any time within the year, the participant shall pay the normal MFN and/or CEPT tariff rates.
7. The NFEE of the participant may only be transferred only to an affiliate/subsidiary company duly designed by the participating company to undertake the importation; Provided, the affiliate/subsidiary company must be accredited by the BOI and is majority owned (at least 50% + 1 share) by the Program participant.

In cases where the Program participant and the affiliate/subsidiary company is ultimately owned by the same mother company, the affiliate/subsidiary will likewise be allowed to undertake the importation.

**SECTION 2.** The Department of Trade and Industry, in consultation with the National Economic and Development Authority and the Department of Finance, shall issue appropriate guidelines to implement the preferential tariff privilege granted under the Program in accordance with the amendments under Section 1 of E.O.

**SECTION 3.** All Presidential issuances, administrative rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked or modified accordingly;

**SECTION 4.** This Executive Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Done in the City of Manila, Philippines, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 313**  
**MODIFYING THE RATES OF DUTY ON CAPITAL EQUIPMENT, SPARE PARTS**  
**AND ACCESSORIES IMPORTED BY BOARD OF INVESTMENTS (BOI) REGISTERED**  
**NEW AND EXPANDING ENTERPRISES**

**WHEREAS**, the Government is committed to encouraging investments in preferred areas of activity;

**WHEREAS**, enterprises located within economic zones and freeports are currently enjoying duty exemption on the importation of machinery and equipment, spare parts and accessories, which is not available to BOI-registered enterprises;

**WHEREAS**, one of the major cost items of business enterprises in their start up operations is the cost of imported machinery and equipment, spare parts and accessories;

**WHEREAS**, reducing the duties on the importation thereof will make the Philippines more attractive to investors in the face of an increasing competitive Asian market for foreign direct investments;

**WHEREAS**, Section 401 of the Tariff and Customs Code of the Philippines empowers the President of the Philippines, upon the recommendation of the National Economic and Development Authority, to increase, reduce or remove existing protective rates of import duty;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the power vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**Section 1.** Any importation of machinery and equipment, spare parts and accessories by enterprises registered with the BOI, except those covered under the Motor Vehicle Development Program, shall be subjected to zero and one (1) percent (1%) duty, as indicated in Section 2 hereof.

**Section 2.** The zero and one percent (1%) duty on articles, equipment, spare part and accessories classified under Chapters 40, 59, 68, 69, 70, 73, 76, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, 89, 90, 91 and 96 of the Tariff and Customs Code of the Philippines shall be granted to BOI-registered new and expanding export-and domestic-oriented enterprises, respectively, upon the issuance by the BOI of a Certificate of Authority; provided, that the importation of machinery and equipment, spare parts and accessories shall comply with the following conditions:

- a) They are not manufactured domestically in sufficient quantity, of comparable quality and at reasonable prices;
- b) They are reasonably needed and will be used exclusively by the enterprise in its registered activity, unless prior approval of the BOI is secured for the part-time utilization of said equipment in a non-registered activity to maximize usage thereof or the proportionate taxes and duties are paid on the specific machinery and equipment being permanently used for non-registered activities; and

- c) The approval of the BOI was obtained by the registered enterprises for the importation of such machinery and equipment, spare parts and accessories.

**Section 3.** The registered enterprise cannot sell, transfer or dispose the aforementioned machinery and equipment, spare parts, and accessories without prior BOI approval within five (5) years from date of importation. Otherwise, the registered enterprise will be solidarily liable with the buyer or any other transferee to pay twice the amount of the duty exemption without prejudice to other applicable penalties under Executive Order (EO) No. 226.

**Section 4.** The Board of Investments, in coordination with the Department of Finance, the National Economic and Development Authority, and the Bureau of Customs shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations governing the implementation of this EO.

**Section 5.** All presidential issuances, administrative rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this EO are hereby revoked or modified accordingly.

**Section 6.** This EO shall take effect thirty (30) days following its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines and shall be availed of for a period of two (2) years from the date of effectivity.

Done in the City of Manila, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 314**  
**CREATING THE PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON VALUES FORMATION (PCVF)**

**WHEREAS**, there exists the Filipino's strong desire to see the establishment and institutionalization of just and moral governance;

**WHEREAS**, this Administration has emphasized good governance from the very start as a cornerstone of its programs;

**WHEREAS**, it is imperative that there be a continuing and intensified drive against graft and corruption, patronage politics, apathy, passivity, mendicancy, factionalism and lack of patriotism as a stated purpose and critical lynchpin of the success of this Administration.

**WHEREAS**, similar efforts by previous administrations to institute moral recovery programs must be further strengthened;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers and authority vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** There is hereby created the Presidential Commission on Values Formation (PCVF). This Commission shall be headed by a Chairperson, with the rank of Presidential Adviser and six (6) Members to be appointed by the President for a term which is co-terminus with that of the President.

**SEC. 2.** The PCVF shall be under the Office of the President (OP) and shall be subject to its supervision and control.

**SEC. 3.** The PCVF shall serve as the lead agency by which government may work hand-in-hand with civil society and the private sector in the establishment of a strong foundation for moral value formation in the government bureaucracy.

**SEC. 4.** The PCVF shall prepare the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of this Order and submit the same to the President for approval. Upon approval thereof, the PCVF shall subsequently proceed to design and implement programs such as but not limited to, seminars and congresses directed to the purpose of inculcating values such as honesty, modesty, integrity and good work ethics in the government bureaucracy.

**Sec. 5.** The PCVF shall make periodic recommendations to the President with regard to any duly supported and substantiated information on incorrigible and undesirable government personnel. Upon the written approval of the President, the PCVF may appear as complainant in any case filed pursuant to such recommendations before the appropriate government agency.

**Sec. 6.** The PCVF shall coordinate with and support non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the private sector in the effort to eradicate from the government bureaucracy, every form or manner of graft and corruption, patronage politics, apathy, passivity, mendicancy, factionalism and lack of patriotism and to replace the same with honest public service and love of country.

**Sec. 7.** The funds to support and implement this Order shall be taken from such source as may be identified by the Department of Budget and Management, subject to applicable accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

**Sec. 8.** All previous Executive Orders, other Presidential issuances and rules and regulations which are inconsistent herewith are hereby modified accordingly.

**Sec. 9.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 30th day of April, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 315**

**AUTHORIZING THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS OFFICE (TELOF) TO DISPOSE A CERTAIN  
PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN TALON-TALON, ZAMBOANGA CITY AS HOUSING SITE  
FOR TELOF EMPLOYEES**

**WHEREAS**, it is the priority concern of the Government to provide housing to homeless Filipinos in line with the constitutional mandate for the State to protect and advance the right of the people to a balance and healthful ecology, decent living conditions and social justice;

**WHEREAS**, mass housing has been reaffirmed by this government as a centerpiece program in its poverty alleviation efforts pursuant to Executive Order No. 20 dated 28 May 2001;

**WHEREAS**, the Telecommunications Office (TELOF) owns a parcel of land with TCT No. 3211 (T-12943) consisting an area of 38,112 square meters located in Talon-Talon, Zamboanga City;

**WHEREAS**, the TELOF has expressed its intention to dispose approximately 23,112 square meters of its land as housing site for the members of the TELOF Multi-purpose Cooperative of Region IX;

**WHEREAS**, such initiative showcase this Administration's seriousness of its anti-poverty strategies that directs the redistribution of physical assets to the poor.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby authorize and direct the Telecommunications Office (TELOF) to dispose **TWENTY THREE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED TWELVE (23,112)** square meters, more or less, of its land covered by Transfer of Certificate of Title No. 3211 (T-12943) located in Talon-Talon, Zamboanga City, as housing site for the TELOF Employees, subject to private rights, if any there be, and to final survey, which portion of land is more particularly described as follows:

A parcel of land (Lot 31-C) of the subdivision plan, PSD-09-049385, being a portion of Lot 31, Cad. 17, Zambo. East Ext. Cad. Situated in the Barangay of Talon-Talon, Zamboanga City. Bounded on the East along line 5-6 by Lot 32, Cad. 17, Zambo. East Ext., on the Sought along line 6-7 by Clemente Licama, along line 7-8 by Rufo Rivero, along 8-9 by Felix Angeles et al., along line 9-10 by Santiago Angeles et. al., on the West along lines 10-12 by Joaquin Candido, et al., along line 12-13 by Mariano Garcia, along lines 13-14-15-1 by existing concrete road 6.50 m. wide, portion of Lot 31-A, and Lot 31-A, on the North along lines 1-2-3 by Lot 31-B, both of the subd. plan, along lines 3-4-5 by Talon-Talon road. Portion of this lot along line 12-13 is an existing concrete road 6.50 m. wide. Beginning at appoint marked "1" on the plan being S. 65 deg 49"W., 1,000.30 m. from Mon. No. 1 Cad. 17, thence

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|                  |           |             |
|------------------|-----------|-------------|
| N 86 deg. 29' E. | 84.34 m.  | to point 2  |
| N 14 deg. 04' W. | 68.27 m.  | to point 3  |
| N 82 deg. 24' E. | 6.50 m.   | to point 4  |
| N 74 deg. 53' E. | 32.60 m.  | to point 5  |
| S 14 deg. 04' E. | 209.40 m. | to point 6  |
| S 86 deg. 35' W. | 50.70 m.  | to point 7  |
| S 84 deg. 48' W. | 50.70 m.  | to point 8  |
| S 86 deg. 15' W. | 55.10 m.  | to point 9  |
| S 88 deg. 05' W. | 56.90 m.  | to point 10 |
| N 01 deg. 32' E. | 37.30 m.  | to point 11 |
| S 76 deg. 31' E. | 27.50 m.  | to point 12 |
| N 01 deg. 56' W. | 6.80 m.   | to point 13 |
| N 77 deg. 04' E. | 27.43 m.  | to point 14 |
| N 88 deg. 09' E. | 39.99 m.  | to point 15 |
| N 01 deg. 50' W. | 89.35 m.  | to point of |

beginning. Containing an area of **TWENTY THREE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED TWELVE (23,112)** square meters, more or less.

The Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC) is hereby directed to assist the Telecommunications Office in the implementation of this Order pursuant to Memorandum Order No. 102, s. 2003.

The HUDCC may call on the concerned key shelter agencies or any other agencies, local government units, financial institutions, non-government organizations and other concerned entities for technical or financial assistance whenever deemed necessary.

**IN WITNESS THEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

Done in the City of Manila, this **21st** day of **May**, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 316**

TEMPORARILY GRANTING A COMMON EFFECTIVE PREFERENTIAL TARIFF RATE OF ZERO PERCENT (0%) ON CERTAIN IMPORTED ARTICLES AS PROVIDED FOR UNDER THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978, AS AMENDED, IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PHILIPPINES AND SINGAPORE ON THE COMPENSATORY ADJUSTMENT MEASURES RELATING TO THE PHILIPPINE SUSPENSION OF CONCESSIONS ON CERTAIN PETROCHEMICAL PRODUCTS

**WHEREAS**, the “Agreement Between the Republic of Singapore and the Republic of the Philippines in Respect of Compensatory Adjustment Measures Relating to the Suspension of Concessions on 11 Petrochemical Products by the Philippines” (hereinafter referred to as the Agreement) was signed on 31 August 2003;

**WHEREAS**, the Agreement provides that the compensatory adjustment measures for years 2003 and 2004 shall be offset under a program of tariff reduction on a list of products (the list to be agreed upon between the two countries) imported by the Philippines from Singapore or through other measures to be mutually agreed;

**WHEREAS**, at its meeting on 14 May 2004, the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Board approved the temporary reduction in the Common Effective Preferential Tariff (CEPT) rates on certain products to 0% until such time that the adjustment measures due in favour of Singapore would have been compensated by the Philippines pursuant to the provisions of the Agreement.

**WHEREAS**, Section 402 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978 (Presidential Decree No. 1464), as amended, authorizes the President of the Philippines, upon the recommendation of NEDA, to modify import duties (including any necessary change in classification) and other import restrictions as are required or appropriate to carry out and promote foreign trade with other countries;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the following:

**SECTION 1.** The articles specifically listed in Annex “A” hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be subject to the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) CEPT rates in accordance with the schedule indicated opposite each article. The ASEAN CEPT rates so indicated shall be accorded to imports coming from ASEAN Member States applying CEPT concession to the same product pursuant to Article 4 of the Agreement on the CEPT Scheme for the ASEAN Free Trade Area, signed on 28 January 1992, and its Interpretative Notes.

**SEC. 2.** From the date of effectivity of this Executive Order, all imported articles listed in Annex “A” shall be imposed the rates of duty therein prescribed subject to qualification under the Rules of Origin as provided for in the CEPT Agreement.

**SEC. 3.** The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) shall monitor the importation of the articles listed in Annex “A” hereof.

SEC. 4. Upon determination by the DTI of the performance of the obligation on the actual compensation due in favor of Singapore for year 2003, importation of subject articles shall no longer enjoy duty-free treatment. The CEPT rate of 0% indicated in Column 5 of Annex “A” shall revert to 3%.

SEC. 5. The provision of the preceding Section 4 shall apply for the years the EO 161, s. 2003, which suspended the tariff concessions on 11 petrochemical products for two years, is in effect.

SEC. 6. Duty free treatment on importation of subject articles, pursuant to Section 1 hereof shall again be accorded to Singapore upon determination by the DTI that it is still entitled to the compensation under the Agreement.

SEC. 7. Upon determination by the DTI of the performance of the obligation on the full compensation due in favor of Singapore, importation of subject articles shall no longer enjoy duty-free treatment. The CEPT rate of 0% indicated in Column 5 of Annex “A” shall revert to 3%.

SEC. 8. All Presidential issuances, administrative rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are contrary to or inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked or modified accordingly.

SEC. 9. This Executive Order shall take effect thirty (30) days after its promulgation.

Done in the City of Manila, this 21<sup>ST</sup> day of May, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Reference:* Annex “A”

*Source:* Malacañang Records Office

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 317**  
**AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 314**

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 314 entitled “*CREATING THE PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON VALUES FORMATION*” was issued on April 30, 2004 to institutionalize just and moral governance;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to revise the composition of this Commission to further strengthen it as lead agency in the establishment of a strong base for moral value formation in the government bureaucracy;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** Section 1 of Executive Order No. 314 dated April 30, 2004 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“**SECTION 1.** There is hereby created the Presidential Commission on Values Formation (PCVF). This Commission shall be headed by the President, as Chairperson, and ten (10) Members to be appointed by the President for a term which is co-terminus with that of the President.”

**SEC. 2.** All previous Executive Orders, other presidential issuances and rules and regulations which are inconsistent herewith are hereby modified accordingly.

**SEC. 3.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of June, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source: Malacañang Records Office*

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 318**  
**PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES**

**WHEREAS**, the Constitution provides for the protection and advancement of the right of the people to a balanced and healthy environment in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature, to protect the Filipino people from disasters like floods or landslides, and from threats to environmental and economic security like wood and water shortage, biodiversity loss, air pollution and drought. Likewise, it provides for the full, efficient and rights-based use of natural resources to abate poverty, promote industrialization and full employment, affirm the diverse cultures of the Filipino, and ensure their availability to present and future generations;

**WHEREAS**, Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) is provided in the Global Plan of implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development adopted in Johannesburg, as an international strategy for developing and managing forests;

**WHEREAS**, important socio-economic and environmental changes and policy reforms that directly affect the forestry sector have taken place since the issuance in 1975 of Presidential Decree No. 705, otherwise known as the Revised Forestry Code of the Philippines, and unless and until otherwise directed by Congress, there is a need to provide guidance to national agencies and instrumentalities on how to best harmonize these policy reforms and make the forestry sector responsive to external changes, and attain SFM in the Philippines;

**WHEREAS**, logging or any commercial exploitation of forestry resources in old growth forests, proclaimed watersheds and other areas covered by the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) is prohibited to ensure the perpetual existence of all native plants and animals;

**WHEREAS**, a watershed-based integrated ecosystems management approach is deemed appropriate for SFM due to the interrelationships and interactions between and among the various ecosystems of a watershed such as the uplands and coastal areas;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.*** It shall be the Policy of the Government to pursue the sustainable management of forests and forestlands in watersheds. Watersheds shall be deemed as ecosystem management units and shall be managed in a holistic, scientific, rights-based, technology-based and community-based manner and observing the principles of multiple-use, decentralization and devolution, and active participation of local government units (LGUs), synergism of economic, ecological, social and cultural objectives, and the rational utilization of all resources found therein. It shall likewise be the policy of the Government to promote sound, effective and efficient, globally-competitive and equitable forestry practices in both public and private domains.

**SECTION 2. *Guiding Principles.*** The pursuit of these policies shall be guided by the following principles:

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## **2.1 Delineation, Classification and Demarcation of State Forestlands**

- 2.1.1 State forestlands shall be identified, classified and delineated/demarcated on the ground and shall constitute the permanent forest estate unless otherwise stipulated by Congress; the same shall be categorized and managed either as primarily for production or as primarily for protection purposes, and in both cases, placed under a formal management scheme.
- 2.1.2 Conversions of forestlands into non-forestry uses shall be allowed only through an act of Congress and upon the recommendation of concerned government agencies.

## **2.2 Holistic, Sustainable and Integrated Development of Forestry Resources**

- 2.2.1 The development and management of the Philippine forests and forestlands including the coastal forests shall be for the highest and widest public benefit and shall be based on the inherent productive capacity and sustainable use of these resources for the present and future generations of Filipinos.
- 2.2.2 The priority development, protection and management activity of any management unit shall be the rehabilitation of open and/or denuded, degraded, fragile forestlands; and slope stabilization and protection to address occurrence of floods, landslides and similar ecological disasters.
- 2.2.3 The establishment of tree parks, greening and roadside planting of forest species in open and appropriate spaces shall be prioritized to mitigate worsening urban air quality and global warming.

## **2.3 Community- Based Forest Conservation and Development**

- 2.3.1 Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM) shall be the primary strategy in all forest conservation and development and related activities, including joint ventures, production sharing and co-production; it shall be encouraged in all private sector forestry enterprises and ventures.
- 2.3.2 CBFM shall be a collaborative undertaking of the national government and the LGU's, local peoples, community organizations, civil society organizations (CSO's), and private business entities.
- 2.3.3 Local cultures, values, traditions, religious beliefs and the rights of indigenous peoples to their ancestral lands and domains as promoted and/or defined by existing legislation shall be recognized and respected in all forestry undertakings of the State and the private sector.

## **2.4 Incentives for Enhancing Private Investments, Economic Contribution and Global Competitiveness of Forest-Based Industries**

- 2.4.1 The government shall provide a favorable and stable policy and investment environment that shall promote the development of efficient, globally-competitive and environment-friendly forest based industries, ensure their sustainable raw material supply and encourage value-added processing in-country to boost rural employment and the economy.

- 2.4.2 Filipino entrepreneurship in forestry shall be encouraged and supported.
- 2.4.3 A package of incentives and services that are responsive to the development of forests in private and public forestlands shall be adopted to encourage the development of private forests, including the deregulation of privately-developed forests and privately-planted trees and enhancement of capacities of stakeholders to engage in private forest development and related activities.
- 2.4.4 The development of high-value tree crops and non-timber forest crops in public forestlands, private lands and in home forest gardens shall be promoted and encouraged to enhance economic and ecological benefits and attain self-sufficiency in the country's wood requirements.
- 2.4.5 Incentives shall be provided to encourage co-management of forest resources involving national and other government agencies (NGAs/OGAs), LGUs, CSOs, and the private sector.

## **2.5 Proper Valuation and Pricing of Forestry Resources and Financing SFM**

- 2.5.1 Mechanisms for proper valuation and fair and comprehensive pricing of forest products and services, including water for domestic, industrial, irrigation and power generation, biodiversity and eco-tourism, shall be developed and promoted.
- 2.5.2 Local, regional and national plow-back mechanisms of utilizing proceeds from the use of watersheds, forests and forestlands for ecological and environmental services such as, but not limited to power generation, supplying domestic and irrigation water, and ecotourism, shall be developed and promoted to finance forest protection, rehabilitation, and development.
- 2.5.3 Appropriate and doable mechanisms for adopting the principles of environment and natural resources accounting (ENRA) and watershed ecosystems as minimum spatial units of accounts shall be developed and institutionalized.
- 2.5.4 Innovative financing systems and approaches, such as securitization, bonds and collaborative investments, shall be encouraged to support sustainable forest management and enterprises and the conservation of forest-based biodiversity in the Philippines.
- 2.5.5 Government investments in and out-sourced financing for forest development such as the application of clean development mechanism (CDM) shall be prioritized in favor of forestlands that serve a significantly large population such as critical watersheds and/or which serve to reduce poverty and inequitable access to forests such as those under CBFM and/or co-management by NGAs/OGAs, LGUs, industries, CSOs, and local communities.

## **2.6 Institutional Support for SFM**

- 2.6.1 The principles and practices of good governance such as transparency, accountability and participatory decision-making, in transactions, decisions and actions affecting forestry, in all levels, and the policy of streamlining, decentralization, devolution and deregulation shall be adopted, promoted and institutionalized in the Government service.

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- 2.6.2 Partnerships and collaboration between and among the DENR, NGAs/OGAs, LGUs, professional forestry organizations, local communities, civic groups, CSOs, basic sectors, academic and other research and development institutions and other stakeholders shall be promoted.
  - 2.6.3 Forestry administrative systems and institutions, including research and development, shall be upgraded and modernized.
  - 2.6.4 Academic programs and scientific research shall be harnessed to generate information, technologies and policies that will strengthen national capacities for SFM under the frameworks of watershed ecosystem management (WEM) and CBFM.
  - 2.6.5 Human resources development programs, for all stakeholders shall be rationalized and upgraded in support of SFM; forestry extension services by NGAs/OGAs and LGU shall be upgraded and intensified and undertaken with CSOs, to support CBFM, private forestry, forestry co-management enterprises, and the development of forest-based biodiversity.
  - 2.6.6 Forest land use plans shall be incorporated by LGUs in their comprehensive land use plans. National Government agencies shall assist LGUs in this endeavor.
  - 2.6.7 Networks and linkages with local and international institutions, CSOs, LGUs, and industries involved in the promotion and practice of SFM shall be strengthened.

**SECTION 3. *Issuance of Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** The DENR, within one hundred eighty (180) days from the issuance hereof, and in coordination with other pertinent national and local agencies and bodies, LGU leagues, Civil Society Organizations, industry groups and academe, shall formulate and promulgate the implementing rules and regulations, procedures, guidelines and priority actions necessary to implement this Order.

**SECTION 4. *Effectivity.*** This Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this **9<sup>th</sup>** day of **June**, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 319**  
**AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER 202 S. 2000 ENTITLED “PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION**  
**OF A PHILIPPINE TASK FORCE ON HAZARDOUS WASTES”**

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 202, entitled “Providing for the Creation of a Philippine Task Force on Hazardous Wastes in Former U.S. Military Installations”, was approved on 18 January 2000;

**WHEREAS**, on July 27, 2000, the RP-US Joint Statement on a Framework for Bilateral Cooperation in the Environment and Public Health was signed in pursuit of enhancing the capacities of the Philippines and the United States for improved environmental and public health management through bilateral activities;

**WHEREAS**, the President gave instructions to transfer the Chairmanship of the Philippine Task Force on Hazardous Wastes (PTFW) to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) during the 4 December 2001 Cabinet meeting.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the power vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** Section 1 of E.O. 202 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“**Section 1. Lead Agency for Hazardous Wastes.** Hazardous Wastes shall be under the overall program and technical supervision of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). The DENR shall be responsible for the formulation of an action plan to include identification of specific responsibilities of concerned agencies, mode of clean-up and restoration operations, funding and financing sources, and turn-over and mainstreaming strategies and other related concerns for the implementation of the action plan.”

**SEC. 2.** Section 2.1 of Executive Order No. 202 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“**Section 2.1. Authority to Create Task Forces.** The Secretary, DENR, is authorized to create task forces as necessary to carry out the function of addressing hazardous wastes.”

**SEC. 3.** Section 2.2 of Executive Order No. 202 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“**Section 2.2. Creation of a Hazardous Wastes Management Office.** There is hereby created a Hazardous Wastes Management Office to assist the DENR Secretary.”

**SEC. 4. Administrative Support.** Hazardous Wasted Management Office shall provide administrative and technical secretariat support to the DENR Secretary.



SEC. 5. Section 3 of Executive Order No. 202 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“**Section 3. Duties and Functions.** The DENR Secretary shall pursue the following duties and functions:

1. Formulate and implement plans of action to address the issue of hazardous wastes contamination in former U.S. military installations in particular, and in pursuit of the RP-US Joint Statement within the Framework for Bilateral Cooperation on the Environment and Public Health in general.
2. Ensure that studies are undertaken to assess the extent of hazardous wastes contamination and its effects on the environment and human health.
3. Initiate and coordinate clean-up and environmental restoration activities in identified sites including former U.S. military installations.
4. Ensure long-term capability building programs of technical transfer which focus on the identification, assessment, analysis and clean-up/rehabilitation, of contaminated sites in the former U.S. military installations, as well as other sites that may be in accordance with the Joint Statement.
5. Secure the firm cooperation of international organizations, U.S. agencies, the private sector, NGOs and other entities in harnessing and making available technical, administrative and financial resources for effective implementation of the pertinent plans of action, programs and projects.
6. Assist in the formulation and implementation of applicable government policies, laws, rules and regulations in connection with the clean-up of hazardous wastes in former U.S. military installations, and in other sites that may be identified under the Joint Statement.
7. Conduct and coordinate public information, education and communication campaigns concerning the Joint Statement within the Framework for Bilateral Cooperation in the Environment and Public Health, and on issues arising from the presence of hazardous substances in former U.S. Military installations.
8. Represent the Government of the Philippines in consultations, meetings and negotiations concerning issues arising from the presence of hazardous substances in former U.S. military installations and all other related matters.
9. Establish Technical Working Groups as may be needed, consistent with Joint Statement on a Framework for Bilateral Cooperation in the Environment and Public Health.
10. Perform other related functions which may be deemed necessary by the President.”

SEC. 6. Section 4 of Executive Order No. 202 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“**Section 4. Funding and Operational Requirements.** The DENR Secretary shall submit to the Department of Budget and Management its initial operational requirements. Funding for the said initial operational requirements shall be sourced from any appropriate source as may be determined, consistent with budgeting, accounting and auditing rules and regulations.”

SEC. 7. **Repealing Clause.** All other provisions of Executive Order No. 202 dated 18 January 2000 and other executive issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby modified or repealed accordingly.

SEC. 8. **Effectivity.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this **22nd** day of **June**, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 320**  
**DESIGNATING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES AS**  
**THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY FOR CLEAN DEVELOPMENT MECHANISM**

**WHEREAS**, climate change is a growing global concern that is causing damages to the ecosystems and resulting in natural calamities such as El Nino and La Nina, especially for low-lying vulnerable countries with fragile ecosystems like the Philippines;

**WHEREAS**, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Changes (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol, both signed and ratified by the Philippines with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources as the focal agency, provide for the reduction in the emission of harmful gases in the atmosphere like carbon dioxide and methane, known as “greenhouse gases”;

**WHEREAS**, the Kyoto Protocol created the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), whereby projects that will prevent or absorb greenhouse gases may be established in developing countries like reforestation, use of renewable energy, etc., with the carbon emission to be prevented or sequestered to be purchased by developed countries in compliance with the provisions of UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol;

**WHEREAS**, participation by the Philippines in the CDM will provide numerous benefits in terms of foreign investments in CDM projects, employment and income opportunities, establishment of ecologically-friendly projects that will contribute to a healthier environment, technology transfer and income from carbon purchases by the developed countries; and

**WHEREAS**, the Marrakesh Accord, adopted in Marrakesh, Morocco in November 2001, provides for the setting up of a National Authority for CDM in participating countries that will act as the focal point for CDM matters and approving authority for CDM projects.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby designate the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) as the National Authority for Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).

**SECTION 1. Powers and Functions.** The National Authority for Clean Development Mechanism shall have the following powers and functions:

- a. Formulate and develop a national Clean Development Mechanism policy.
- b. Develop the criteria, indicators, standards, systems and procedures, and evaluation tools for the review of CDM projects.
- c. Undertake the assessment and approval of CDM projects that will be submitted to the UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol.
- d. Monitor the implementation of CDM projects, and
- e. Perform other functions that are related to and in pursuance of the development of CDM.

**SEC. 2. *Creation of Technical Evaluation Committees.*** The National Authority is hereby authorized to create Technical Evaluation Committees necessary for the efficient and effective implementation of its functions. The Department of Energy shall take the lead role in the evaluation of energy-related projects. All Departments, agencies and instrumentalities of Government are hereby directed to provide the necessary support and assistance to the National Authority.

**SEC. 3. *Promulgation of Rules and Regulations.*** The National Authority shall, within one hundred and twenty (120) days from the issuance of this Order, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to effectively carry out its functions provided herein. In the interim, the existing procedure for the approval of CDM project proposals shall continue to be enforced.

**SEC. 4. *Repealing Clause.*** All orders, rules and regulations and issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 5. *Effectivity.*** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately, and upon filing with the University of the Philippines Law Center of the Rules and Regulations issued pursuant to Section 3 hereof.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of June, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 321**

AMENDING FURTHER EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 45, SERIES OF 1993, AS AMENDED,  
WHICH PRESCRIBES THE ADOPTION OF THE PHILIPPINE REFERENCE SYSTEM OF 1992  
AS THE STANDARD REFERENCE SYSTEM OF SURVEYS IN THE PHILIPPINES

**WHEREAS**, due to the inadequacy of the old survey system to meet the government's demands for highly accurate surveying and mapping programs, a new geodetic control network, known as the Philippine Reference System of 1992 (PRS 92), was adopted as the new standard reference for all surveying and mapping activities in the country in pursuant to Executive Order (EO) No. 45, dated January, 1993, as amended by EO No. 280 dated August 14, 2000;

**WHEREAS**, the new System was also envisioned to support sustainable management and development of environment and natural resources, and to establish more accurate special positioning for infrastructure activities;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to extend the transition period for the integration of old surveys in the PRS 92;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The transition period for the integration of old surveys into PRS 92 is further extended up to the end of year 2010.

**SEC. 2.** The Department of Environment and Natural Resources is hereby ordered to allocate the necessary funds, issue implementing guidelines, and designate an office which will oversee the implementation of this Order.

**SEC. 3.** This Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this **2nd** day of **July**, in the year of our Lord, two thousand four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 322**

**TRANSFERRING THE QUEDAN AND RURAL CREDIT GUARANTEE CORPORATION  
FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND  
REORGANIZING THE GOVERNMENT BOARD THEREOF**

**WHEREAS**, by virtue of Republic Act No. 7393 approved on April 13, 1992 [RA 7393], as amended by Republic Act No. 8435 approved on December 22, 1997 [RA 8435], the existing Quedan Guarantee Fund Board was reorganized and renamed as the Quedan and Rural Credit Guarantee Corporation [QUEDANCOR], attached to the Department of Agriculture, and mandated to accelerate the flow of investments and credit resources into the countryside so as to trigger the vigorous growth and development of rural productivity, employment and enterprise, livelihood and income opportunities;

**WHEREAS**, a modernized agricultural sector, through an institutionalized and comprehensive financing and guarantee support system for the country's agricultural sector, particularly to small farmers and fisherfolk, small and medium enterprises and micro-enterprises, agri-business and other agri-related projects, is one of the key components of the Government's national agenda for poverty alleviation and national development;

**WHEREAS**, in order to effectivity oversee and implement agriculture development activities through an institutionalized and comprehensive financing and guarantee support system for the country's agricultural sector, there is a need to transfer QUEDANCOR from the Department of Agriculture to the Office of the President, and to reorganized the Governing Board thereof;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, the President has the continuing authority to reorganized the administrative structure of the Office of the President;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Transfer of QUEDANCOR.*** QUEDANCOR is hereby transferred from Department of Agriculture to the Office of the President.

**SECTION 2. *Reorganization.*** The President shall appoint a representative to the Governing Board of QUEDANCOR as the Chairman thereof. The Secretary of Agriculture shall remain an *ex-officio* member of the Governing Board.

**SECTION 3. *Repealing Clause.*** All executive issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked, amended, or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 4. *Effectivity.*** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, July 5, 2004.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 323**  
**REORGANIZING THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES**

**WHEREAS**, the Government is committed to provide a comprehensive financing and guarantee support system for the country's agricultural sector to jumpstart employment generation and enterprise, livelihood and income opportunities, and the growth and development of rural productivity;

**WHEREAS**, in line with the Government's commitment, the Land Bank of the Philippines [LBP], created by virtue of Republic Act No. 3844 approved on August 8, 1963, as amended by Republic Act No. 7907 approved on February 23, 1995, has included in its institutional priority agenda, the expansion of its loan portfolio for priority sectors, particularly to small farmers and fishersfolk, small and medium enterprises [SMEs] and micro-enterprises, agri-business and other agri-related projects;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to reorganize the Governing Board of the LBP for greater coordination and supervision to ensure the effective implementation of the Government's commitment to jumpstart the country's agricultural sector;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Reorganization of the LBP Board.*** The President shall appoint a representative to the LBP Board as Chairman thereof. The Secretary of Finance shall remain an *ex-officio* member of the LBP Board.

**SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause.*** All executive issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked, amended, or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 3. *Effectivity.*** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, July 5, 2004.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 324**

**DIRECTING THE TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY FROM THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL RAILWAYS TO THE HONDAGUA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND DIRECTING THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION TO EXERCISE PRIMARY OVERSIGHT FUNCTIONS OVER THE SAID TRANSFER**

**WHEREAS**, Section 1, Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all;

**WHEREAS**, it is a declared policy of the State to promote education as a means to achieve and maintain an accelerating rate of economic development and social progress;

**WHEREAS**, the Hondagua National High School [HNHS] is a National High School under the supervision of the Department of Education [DepEd] which is currently situated in a real property leased from and owned by the Philippine National Railways [PNR] (hereinafter, the “Hondagua Property”);

**WHEREAS**, in order for the DepEd to appropriate a budget and allocate funds for the development of the HNHS as a complete and adequate educational institution, particularly for the construction of school buildings, acquisition of equipment and other facilities, there is a need to transfer ownership over the Hondagua Property from the PNR to the HNHS;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Transfer of Property.*** – Subject to existing laws, rules and regulations, the real property covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. 5423, issued by the Registry of Deeds for the Province of Tayabas, currently issued in the name of the PNR, with an area of approximately ten thousand square meters (10,000 sq.m.), more or less, over which the HNHS is currently situated, shall be transferred from the PNR to the HNHS.

For this purpose, the Department of Education [DepEd], in coordination with PNR and other appropriate government agencies, including the Department of Environment and Natural Resources [DENR], is hereby directed to determine the metes and bounds of the real property subject of the transfer herein.

**SECTION 2. *Oversight Functions.*** – The Secretary of Education is hereby directed to exercise primary oversight functions over the transfer of the Hondagua Property as provided in Section 1 hereof and shall, within sixty (60) days from the date of issuance of this Order, submit a written report to the President, through the Executive Secretary, on the transfer of the Hondagua Property as directed in Section 1 hereof.

**SECTION 3. *Assistance.*** – The Secretary of Education may call upon the Department of Finance, the Department of Budget and Management [DBM], and any other agency of the Government for such assistance as may be necessary or appropriate in the performance of his functions.

All heads of departments, agencies, bureaus, offices, including government-owned or controlled corporations, are hereby enjoined to render full assistance and cooperation to the Secretary of

Education and to provide such information and data as may be required to carry out his functions pursuant to this Order.

**SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause.*** – All executive issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 5. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, JUL 06 2004

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

**Source: Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 325**  
**CREATING THE PRESIDENTIAL ANTI-ILLEGAL RECRUITMENT TASK FORCE**

**WHEREAS**, there are alarming reports that illegal recruitment for work abroad remain unabated;

**WHEREAS**, it is of critical importance that the State safeguard public interest and protect the welfare of Filipino workers from unscrupulous recruiters and syndicates who employ nefarious means to entice Filipinos to go abroad under onerous and exploitative conditions;

**WHEREAS**, coordination between and among agencies engaged in the anti-illegal recruitment drive must be enhanced to efficiently address the illegal recruitment concerns;

**WHEREAS**, the Administrative Code of 1987 vests the President with continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the Office of the President;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Creation and Function of Presidential Anti-Illegal Recruitment Task Force.*** There is hereby created a Presidential Anti-Illegal Recruitment Task Force (PAIRTF), tasked to; a) develop and execute strategies and schemes against the *modus operandi* of illegal recruiters such as, but not limited to, “escort” services within our international airports and other points of departure, b) develop and execute strategies and schemes against syndicates responsible for tampering and sale of spurious passports and travel documents; and c) ensure the prosecution of illegal recruiters, syndicates and protectors.

**SEC. 2. *Composition.*** The PAIRTF shall be composed of a Chairman, who shall be appointed or designated by the President, and a sufficient number of members as may be determined by the Chairman, from the staff of the National Bureau of Investigation, the Philippine National Police and other relevant government agencies, who shall be detailed to the PAIRTF by their respective heads.

**SEC. 3. *Office.*** The Manila International Airport Authority shall provide sufficient space at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) to serve as the principal office of the PAIRTF.

**SEC. 4. *Powers of the PAIRTF.*** In pursuit of its functions as defined in Section 1 hereof, the PAIRTF shall have the responsibility and authority to:

- a) conduct surveillance and entrapment operations of persons alleged to be engaged in illegal recruitment including, but not limited to, “escort” services at international airports and other points of departure;
- b) cause or direct the immediate investigation and speedy prosecution of cases involving illegal recruitment and monitor the progress of such cases;
- c) coordinate with existing bodies, agencies and other instrumentalities currently involved in the campaign against illegal recruitment;
- d) perform other powers and function as may be necessary for the effective discharge of its function or as may be directed by the Oversight Committee or the President.

**SEC. 5. *Oversight Committee.*** There is hereby created an Oversight Committee, chaired by the Secretary of Labor and Employment, to ensure the active participation and cooperation of government agencies and instrumentalities involved in anti-illegal recruitment efforts. The members of the Committee shall be composed of the following:

Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs  
General Manager, Manila International Airport Authority  
Director, National Bureau of Investigation  
Chief State Prosecutor, Department of Justice  
Chief, Philippine National Police  
Administrator, Philippine Overseas Employment Administration  
Commissioner, Bureau of Immigration

**SEC. 6. *Assistance and Cooperation.*** In addition to the above-mentioned agencies, all other government agencies are hereby directed to actively cooperated with and support the anti-illegal recruitment campaign. For this purpose, the Chairman may call upon the heads of such government agencies for assistance, as may be necessary, from time to time.

**SEC. 7. *Funding.*** The Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) shall identify and recommend to the President the fund source for the TEN MILLION PESOS administrative and operational expenses budget of the PAIRTF. The DBM shall source additional financial requirements that may be needed by the PAIRTF from available funds of concerned agencies involved in the campaign against illegal recruitment, subject to the usual government and accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

**SEC. 8. *Repeal.*** All orders, rules and regulations and issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 9. *Effectivity.*** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in full force for a period of one year.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of July, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: Malacañang Records Office

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 326**  
**REORGANIZING THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL  
TRADING CORPORATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Government has declared its commitment to fight poverty by creating six to ten million jobs through government programs and projects, private sector investments and agriculture development activities;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine International Trading Corporation [PITC], created by virtue of Presidential Decree No. 252 issued on July 21, 1973, as amended by Presidential Decree No. 1071 issued on January 25, 1977 and Executive Order No. 756 issued on December 28, 1981, has been designated as a key agency in the Government's commitment to create six to ten million jobs;

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with its expanded role in the Government's program to fight poverty, there is a need to reorganize the Governing Board of the PITC for greater coordination and supervision to ensure the effective implementation of the Government's commitment to generate employment;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Chairman of the Board.*** The Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Philippine International Trading Corporation (PITC) shall be appointed by the President while the Secretary of Trade Industry shall remain an *ex-officio* member of the PITC Board.

**SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause.*** Executive Order No. 756 (s. 1981) or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby revoked or modified accordingly. All other executive issuances, Rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked, amended, or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 3. *Effectivity.*** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, JUL 09 2004

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: Malacañang Records Office

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 327**

AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 12 DATED 16 APRIL 2001 ENTITLED  
“CREATING THE PRESIDENTIAL ANTI-GRAFT COMMISSION AND PROVIDING  
FOR ITS POWERS, DUTIES, AND FUNCTIONS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

**WHEREAS**, to address the need for a new body to assist the President in the campaign against graft and corruption in the Executive Department, the President issued Executive Order No. 12 dated 16 April 2001 creating the Presidential Anti-Graft Commission, hereinafter referred to as the “Commission;”

**WHEREAS**, Section 2 of the said Executive Order provides, among others, that “(a)ll the members of the Commission shall serve on a full-time basis and a majority shall be members of the Philippine Bar;”

**WHEREAS**, in order for the Commission to espouse a more holistic approach in dealing with the problem of graft and corruption in the Government, there is a need to appoint therein reputable individuals who represent other related fields or disciplines;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and the laws, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** Section 2 of Executive Order No. 12 dated 16 April 2001 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“**SEC. 2. Composition.** – The Commission shall be composed of a Chairman and two (2) Commissioners to be appointed by the President. All the members of the Commission shall serve on a full-time basis and at least one of whom shall be a member of the Philippine Bar. The Chairman shall have the rank, emoluments and privileges of a Presidential Assistant II. The Commissioners, on the other hand, shall have the rank, emoluments, and privileges of a Presidential Assistant I. The Chairman shall preside over the meetings of the Commission and shall direct and supervise the implementation and execution of policies, rules and regulations.”

**SEC. 2. Repealing Clause.** – All other executive issuances or portions thereof inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 3. Effectivity.** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon approval.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 9TH day of July, in the Year of our Lord Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 328**  
**TRANSFERRING OPERATIONAL SUPERVISION OF THE MANILA ECONOMIC AND**  
**CULTURAL OFFICE INC. FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT TO THE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY**

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) is the primary coordinative, promotive, facilitative and regulatory arm of the Executive Branch of government in the area of trade, industry and investment;

**WHEREAS**, the Manila Economic and Cultural Office Inc. (MECO) was established to promote cooperation in the fields of economic, trade, cultural and economic matters between the Philippines and Taiwan on a people-to-people basis;

**WHEREAS**, in order to facilitate coordination of policies and programs between these agencies, it is necessary to place the MECO under the DTI;

**WHEREAS**, Book III, Title III, Chapter 10, Section 31(3) of the Administrative Code of 1987, authorizes the President to “[T]ransfer any agency under the Office of the President to any other department or agency x x x”.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the following:

**SECTION 1.** Section 1 of the Executive Order No. 229 series of 2000 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 4. OPERATIONAL SUPERVISION. Supervision over the principal office in Manila of the MECO and its branch offices in Taiwan is hereby placed under the Department of Trade and Industry”.

**SECTION 2.** All orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent of this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 3.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.



DONE in the City of Manila, this 16th day of July, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 329**  
**TRANSFERRING THE PUBLIC ESTATES AUTHORITY (PEA) FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE**

**WHEREAS**, the Public Estates Authority is the government agency primarily responsible for integrating, directing and coordinating all reclamation projects for and in behalf of the National Government;

**WHEREAS**, Book IV, Chapter 1, Section 5 of the Administrative Code of 1987 empowers the President to “*indicate to which department a government corporation may be attached*”.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The Public Estates Authority is hereby transferred from the Department of Public Works and Highways and attached to the Department of Finance.

**SECTION 2.** All orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 3.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 19th day of July, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 330**  
**TRANSFERRING THE PHILIPPINE AMUSEMENT AND GAMING CORPORATION (PAGCOR)**  
**FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE**

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Finance (DoF) is responsible for the generation and management of the financial resources of government, ensuring that said resources are generated and managed judiciously and in a manner supportive of the development objectives of government;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation was established to, among others, generate resources which can be utilized to finance government infrastructure, as well as socio-civic development projects;

**WHEREAS**, in order to facilitate coordination of policies and programs between these agencies, it is necessary to place the PAGCOR under the DoF;

**WHEREAS**, Book III, Title III, Chapter 10, Section 31 (3) of the Administrative Code of 1987, authorizes the President to “[T]ransfer any agency under the Office of the President to any other department or agency x x x”.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the following:

**SECTION 1.** The Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation is hereby transferred from the Office of the President and attached to the Department of Finance.

**SECTION 2.** All orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 3.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 16th day of July, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 330-A**  
AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 330 BY TRANSFERRING THE ATTACHMENT OF  
THE PHILIPPINE AMUSEMENT AND GAMING CORPORATION (PAGCOR) FROM THE  
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 330, series of 2004 transferred the PAGCOR from the Office of the President to the Department of Finance as an attached agency of the latter;

**WHEREAS**, in order to finance priority infrastructure and socio-civic projects as determined by the President, it is best to place PAGCOR back to the Office of the President;

**WHEREAS**, under Presidential Decree 1869, the charter of PAGCOR, the Board of Directors of PAGCOR shall submit to the Office of the President of the Philippines before the end of February of each year a list of all the infrastructure and/or socio-civic projects that might have been financed from the Corporation's earnings, and to submit such periodic or other reports as may be required of it from time to time;

**WHEREAS**, under the same charter, PAGCOR shall allocate and distribute, with the approval of the Office of the President of the Philippines, the earnings of the said Corporation earmarked to finance infrastructure and socio-civic projects;

**NOW THEREFORE, I GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby amend EO No. 330 by transferring the attachment of PAGCOR from the Department of Finance back to the Office of the President.

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 6th day of March, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and six.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **EDUARDO R. ERMITA**  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2006). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 331**  
**PLACING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION (PNCC) UNDER**  
**THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY**

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) is the primary coordinative, promotive, facilitative and regulatory arm of the Executive Branch of government in the area of trade, industry and investment;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine National Construction Corporation (PNCC) holds the franchise to operate the North Luzon and South Luzon Expressways;

**WHEREAS**, the development of expressways requires huge investments, and it is necessary to place the PNCC under the DTI;

**WHEREAS**, the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and/or government financial institutions have majority ownership of the PNCC, which pursuant to PNCC vs. Pabion (320 SCRA 188), may be considered as a government-owned and/or controlled corporation;

**WHEREAS**, Book IV, Chapter I, Section 5 of the Administrative Code of 1987, the President is empowered to indicate to which department a government corporation may be attached.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the following:

**SECTION 1.** Pending its privatization, the Philippine National Construction Corporation is hereby placed under and attached to the Department of Trade and Industry.

**SECTION 2.** All orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 3.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 16th day of July, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 332**  
**TRANSFERRING THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CDA) FROM THE**  
**OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE**

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the State to promote the viability and growth of cooperatives as instruments of equity, social justice and economic development;

**WHEREAS**, cooperatives are indispensable component of the national development plan by operating business enterprises based on mutual aid;

**WHEREAS**, it is the mandate of the Department of Finance (DoF) to formulate, institutionalize and administer fiscal policies;

**WHEREAS**, in order to facilitate coordination of policies and programs between these agencies, it is necessary to place the CDA under the DoF;

**WHEREAS**, Book III, Title III, Chapter 10, Section 31 (3) of the Administrative Code of 1987, authorizes the President to “[T]ransfer any agency under the Office of the President to any other department or agency x x x”.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the following:

**SECTION 1.** The Cooperative Development Authority is hereby transferred from the Office of the President and attached to the Department of Finance.

**SECTION 2.** All orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 3.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 16th day of July, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source: Malacañang Records Office*

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 333**

**CREATING THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER FOR JOBS GENERATION,  
DEFINING ITS MANDATE, POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**WHEREAS**, the President of the Republic of the Philippines has outlined in her inaugural address on June 30, 2004 a 10-Point Legacy that will be pursued and implemented by her administration in the next six (6) years;

**WHEREAS**, with reference to the President's 10-Point Legacy, the Government shall endeavor to achieve the creation of 6 to 10 million jobs and the development of 1 to 2 million hectares of agri-business lands;

**WHEREAS**, in order for all concerned offices and agencies of the Government to have unity of purpose and consistency in action to achieve these objectives, there is an urgent need to establish an office which shall coordinate, on a full-time basis, the effective and timely implementation of the Government's commitments as outlined herein;

**WHEREAS**, under the Administrative Code of 1987 and other existing laws, the President has the continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the Office of the President;

**NOW THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Creation.*** – The Office of the Presidential Adviser for Jobs Generation [OPAJG] is hereby created under the Office of the President, to be headed by the Presidential Adviser for Jobs Generation, who shall have the rank and emoluments of a Cabinet Secretary.

**SECTION 2. *Mandate.*** – The Presidential Adviser for Jobs Generation shall coordinate the effective and timely implementation of the Government's Roadmap for Jobs Generation, consisting of its commitment to create 6 to 10 million jobs and the development of 1 to 2 million hectares of agri-business lands within the next 6 years.

**SECTION 3. *Powers and Functions.*** – The Presidential Adviser for Jobs Generation shall have the following powers and functions:

- a. Advise the President on the programs, policies and projects that shall ensure the full realization of the Government's commitment to create 6 to 10 million jobs in the next 6 years;
- b. Coordinate initiatives and projects of concerned government agencies and offices, including government owned or controlled corporations [GOCCs], as well as with the private sector, in order to ensure the successful realization of the Government's Roadmap for Jobs Generation as embodied herein;
- c. Oversee the packaging of credit facilities, guarantee programs and other financial assistance schemes for small farmers and fisherfolk, small and medium enterprises [SMEs], micro-business enterprises, those engaged in food and non-food production, trading and processing, and other rural-based organizations and individuals, and to monitor and supervise the delivery thereof to the intended beneficiaries;

- 
- d. Oversee other government agencies and government financial institutions, including but not limited to the Land Bank of the Philippines [LBP] and the Quedan and Rural Credit Guarantee Corporation [QUEDANCOR], and private-sector resources to support the Roadmap for Jobs Generation and micro-business enterprises, SMEs and agri-business credit;
  - e. Promote public-private sector cooperation to generate and support entrepreneurial endeavors;
  - f. Lead in the values formation and information campaign for confidence-building in the countryside as viable investment areas;
  - g. Conduct periodic evaluation of programs, policies and projects and propose changes and reforms that shall increase efficiency and effectivity of agriculture development programs and projects;
  - h. Call upon any agency of the Government for such assistance as may be necessary to address problems affecting the efficient and timely implementation of the Government's commitment to generate 6 to 10 million jobs and to transform 1 to 2 million hectares of productive agri-business lands;
  - i. Prepare and submit periodic reports to the President on the status, progress, enforcement of policies, and execution and implementation of programs and projects related to the major components of the Government's 10-Point Legacy; and
  - j. Perform such other functions as the President may direct.

**SECTION 4. *Ex-Officio Chairman.*** – In order to efficiently and effectively perform his functions and duties as prescribed herein, the Presidential Adviser for Jobs Generation shall serve as *ex-officio* Chairman of the governing boards of the LBP and QUEDANCOR.

**SECTION 5. *Technical and Administrative Support.*** – The Presidential Adviser on Jobs Generation shall establish and maintain a Secretariat which shall provide technical and administrative support.

The Presidential Adviser on Jobs Generation is hereby authorized to formulate the organizational structure of its Secretariat, composed of such administrative and technical personnel as may be deemed necessary to efficiently and effectively carry out the functions and duties as prescribed herein. Subject to existing civil service laws, rules and regulations, personnel from QUEDANCOR, LBP and other concerned agencies involved in jobs generation as provided herein may also be detailed by their respective heads to the OPAJG.

**SECTION 6. *Assistance.*** – The Presidential Adviser on Jobs Generation may call upon any agency or office of the Government for such assistance as may be necessary or appropriate in the performance of his functions.

All heads of departments, agencies, bureaus and offices, including government-owned or controlled corporations, are hereby enjoined to render full assistance and cooperation to the Presidential Adviser on Jobs Generation and to provide such information and data as may be required to carry out his functions pursuant to this Order.

**SECTION 7. *Funding.*** – Subject to existing laws, and the usual government accounting and auditing rules and regulations, the funding for the administrative and operational expenses of the OPAJG and its Secretariat shall be sourced from available funds of the LBP and QUEDANCOR.

**SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.*** – Executive Order Nos. 322 and 323 dated July 5, 2004, insofar as they are inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order, are hereby amended or modified accordingly. All other executive issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof that are inconsistent with the provisions of the Executive Order are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 9. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

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City of Manila, JUL 19 2004

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 334**  
**ABOLISHING THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRONIC**  
**COMMERCE COUNCIL AND TRANSFERRING ITS BUDGET, ASSETS, PERSONNEL,**  
**PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS TO THE COMMISSION ON INFORMATION AND**  
**COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY**

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the government to promote economy, efficiency and effectiveness in fostering and sustaining an e-enabled information society;

**WHEREAS**, the Information Technology and Electronic Commerce Council (ITECC) was created pursuant to Executive Order No. 264 dated 12 July 2000 and amended by Executive Order No. 18 dated 25 May 2001;

**WHEREAS**, the ITECC was mandated to act as the primary planning and policy advisory body on development, promotion and application of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and e-commerce initiatives;

**WHEREAS**, the Commission on Information and Communications Technology (CICT), created pursuant to Executive Order No. 269 dated 12 January 2004, functions as the primary policy, planning, coordinating, implementing, regulating, and administrative entity for ICT of the Executive Branch of the Government;

**WHEREAS**, it is desirable to centralize all ICT and ICT-related programs and projects, functions and initiatives in one government agency;

**WHEREAS**, the government recognizes that the development of ICT will have a higher chance of success and sustainability if it is private sector-led, market-based and government-enabled; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a need for close coordination between the government and the private sector for the promotion and continued growth and development of ICT in the country;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The Information Technology and E-Commerce Council (ITECC) is hereby abolished and its budget, assets, records, personnel, programs and projects, and functions are transferred to the Commission on Information and Communications Technology (CICT), as appropriate.

**SEC. 2.** The CICT is hereby directed to constitute a private sector advisory board to assist the CICT in the effective implementation of the provisions of Executive Order 269 s. 2004. The CICT Advisory Board shall report directly to the Chairman of the CICT.

**SEC. 3.** All orders, rules and regulations and issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 4.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE, in the City of Manila, this 20th day of July, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By Authority of the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑAN PALACE  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 335**  
**CREATING THE OFFICE OF THE CABINET OFFICER FOR PROVINCIAL EVENTS**

Section 1. Creation of the Office. To ensure a smooth execution of all plans and arrangements, including Presidential instructions, relating to Presidential provincial visits and town halls, there is hereby created, within the Presidential Management Staff, an Office of the CABINET OFFICER FOR PROVINCIAL EVENTS (COPE) composed of the following:

1. Cabinet Officer for Provincial Events, who shall head the office;
2. Assistant Secretary for Provincial Events, who shall serve as deputy;
3. Two (2) Assistant Secretaries seconded from the Office of the Press Secretary (OPS);
4. Staff seconded from the Radio-TV Malacanang (RTVM);
5. Staff Seconded from the Media Accreditation and Relations Office (MARO) of the Office of the Press Secretary and the Philippine Information Agency (PIA);
6. Officer(s) seconded from the Malacanang Protocol Office;
7. Officer to liaise with the Presidential Security Group (PSG);
8. Officer to liaise with the Malacanang Appointments Office;
9. Officer to liaise with the Presidential Assistants for Regional Concerns (PARECOs);
10. Officer to liaise with the Presidential Adviser for Communications (PAC);
11. The Presidential Management Staff Office of Regional Concerns/Office of the President Special Operations Group, hereby integrated into the Office of the COPE.

Section 2. Functions. The COPE shall head and build up the capability of the “advance” team for provincial trips and town halls of the President, including media relations for said provincial trips and town halls.

The COPE shall conduct ocular inspection and assessment of the proposed provincial trips and town halls to validate and finalize the President’s programs and activities and whenever necessary, a post-visit assessment of the trip.

The COPE shall be responsible for preparing the detailed program of the President’s activities and the corresponding flight manifest (if any).

The COPE shall likewise be responsible for gathering the required data and other inputs needed for the President’s speeches and statements for the town hall or the different activities during the provincial visit.

Section 3. Coordination with Other Offices.

- (a) At the national level, the COPE shall coordinate with national line agencies and the following entities on all the administrative and other arrangements and preparations required in the areas to be visited by the President: PSG; MARO; PIA; Malacanang Appointments Office; Malacanang Protocol Office; and the PARECOs. He shall coordinate the participation of all government agencies and instrumentalities, including Congress and the Judiciary as well as concerned Private Sector representatives in such provincial visits/town halls.

- (b) The Presidential Adviser for Communications shall primarily be responsible for preparing the President's speeches and statements needed for the town hall or different activities during the provincial visit based on data provided by the COPE and other inputs.
- (c) At the local level, the COPE shall coordinate through the PARECOs with the regional offices of national line agencies and the local officials concerned on all the administrative requirements for the conduct of the town hall or various activities of the President in the areas to be visited as well as the participation of said local officials to the said activities.
- (d) The PSG shall be the lead agency in providing the security requirements of the President and the members of the First Family. It shall lead in coordinating the security and other related preparations and arrangements for the local Presidential visits and assist the COPE in coordinating the participation of the officials and elements of the Philippine National Police and the Armed Forces of the Philippines in the area of the President's activities.
- (e) The Malacanang Appointments Office shall primarily be responsible for providing the COPE with inputs regarding possible activities of the President during the provincial visit as well as ensuring the approved town hall or activities of the presidential visit are incorporated in the integrated schedule of the President.

Section 4. Operational Supervision over Seconded Personnel from the OPS. The COPE shall exercise operational supervision over the seconded officers and staff from the Office of the Press Secretary on the physical and substantive requirements for the provision of radio and television coverage for the Presidential activities.

The operational supervision shall cover all media-related activities, including the preparation of press kits, and the decision on the conduct of press briefings, press conference and interviews on site, in coordination with the Presidential Adviser for Communications.

Section 5. Protocol Oversight. The COPE shall oversee the seconded Malacanang Protocol Officer who shall be responsible to him as well as to the Presidential Chief of Protocol for attending to all the protocol requirements and arrangements for the town hall or the different activities of the President during the provincial visit.

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Done in the City of Manila, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of July, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 336**

**MODIFYING THE RATES OF IMPORT DUTY ON CRUDE PETROLEUM OILS AND REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS UNDER SECTION 104 OF THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978 (PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1464), AS AMENDED**

**WHEREAS**, current developments warrant the modification in the rates of duty on crude petroleum oils and refined petroleum products;

**WHEREAS**, Section 6 (Tariff Treatment) of Republic Act (R.A.) 8479, otherwise known as the “Downstream Oil Industry Deregulation Act of 1998,” provides that: “Any law to the contrary notwithstanding and starting with the effectivity of this Act, a single and uniform tariff duty shall be imposed and collected both on imported crude oil and imported refined petroleum products at the rate of three percent (3%): *Provided, however*, That the President of the Philippines may, in the exercise of his powers, reduce such tariff rate when in his judgment such reduction is warranted, pursuant to Republic Act No. 1937, as amended, otherwise known as the “Tariff and Customs Code”: *Provided, further*, That beginning January 1, 2004 or upon implementation of the Uniform Tariff Program under the World Trade Organization and ASEAN Free Trade Area commitments, the tariff rate shall be automatically adjusted to the appropriate level notwithstanding the provisions under this Section.”

**WHEREAS**, Sections 401 and 402 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978 (Presidential Decree No. 1464), as amended, empower the President of the Republic of the Philippines to increase, reduce, or remove existing rates of import duty, as well as to modify the form of duty and the tariff nomenclature, under Section 104 of the Code;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The articles specifically listed in Annex “A” hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be subject to the rates of import duty [Most-Favoured-Nation (MFN) and Association of Southeast Nations (ASEAN) - Common Effective Preferential Tariff (CEPT)] indicated in Columns 4 and 5 opposite each article.

**SECTION 2.** The ASEAN-CEPT rates so indicated in Annex “A” shall be accorded to imports coming from ASEAN Member States applying CEPT concession to the same product pursuant to Article 4 of the Agreement on the CEPT Scheme for the ASEAN Free Trade Area (CEPT Agreement), signed on 28 January 1992, and its Interpretative Notes.

**SECTION 3.** The rates of import duty on tariff headings not enumerated and those listed but represented by the symbol “x x x” shall remain in force and in effect.

**SECTION 4.** Upon the effectivity of this Executive Order, all articles listed in Annex “A” which are entered and withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines for consumption shall be levied the MFN rates of duty therein prescribed.

**SECTION 5.** Upon the date of effectivity of this Executive Order, all articles listed in Annex "A" which are entered and withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines for consumption shall be imposed the ASEAN-CEPT rates of duty therein prescribed subject to qualification under the Rules of Origin as provided for in the CEPT Agreement.

**SECTION 6.** The MFN and CEPT rates shall take effect once the Department of Energy certifies that a trigger price has been reached.

**SECTION 7.** The Department of Energy, in coordination with the Department of Finance, Department of Trade and Industry, National Economic and Development Authority and the Bureau of Customs shall promulgate the guidelines to implement this EO.

**SECTION 8.** All Presidential issuances, administrative rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are contrary to or inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 9.** This Executive Order shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Done in the City of Manila, this 23 day of July, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

*Reference:* Annex "A"

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 337**

MODIFYING THE RATES OF DUTY ON CERTAIN IMPORTED ARTICLES AS PROVIDED UNDER THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978, AS AMENDED, IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THE PREFERENTIAL TARIFF RATES ON CERTAIN PRODUCTS UNDER THE ASEAN INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION (AICO) SCHEME, IN FAVOR OF HONDA CARS PHILIPPINES, INC. (HONDA)-(COE NO. HONDA/2004/36)

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines is a Contracting Party to the Basic Agreement on the ASEAN Industrial Cooperation Scheme (AICO) signed in Singapore on 27 April 1996;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines is a participating country in the approved AICO Arrangements of Honda Cars Philippines, Inc. along with Thailand;

**WHEREAS**, under the Honda AICO Certificate of Eligibility No. Honda/2004/36, the Philippines (Honda Cars Philippines, Inc.) will import from Thailand (Honda Automobile (Thailand) Co. Ltd.) certain original equipment manufacture (OEM) automotive parts/components for Honda Civic (HS 8703.90 10). In exchange, Thailand (Honda Automobile (Thailand) Co., Ltd.) will import from the Philippines complementary parts/components for the OEM of Honda Accord, City, Civic, Jazz and CR-V;

**WHEREAS**, AICO Certificate of Eligibility No. Honda/2004/36 was issued on 18 March 2004, in favor of the participating companies in the Honda AICO Arrangement;

**WHEREAS**, in consonance with Articles 5 and 7 of the Basic Agreement of the AICO Scheme, participating companies in the approved Honda AICO Arrangements shall qualify for 0 – 5% preferential tariff rates to be extended by Thailand and the Philippines as participating countries.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, pursuant to the powers vested in me under Section 402 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The articles specifically listed in Annex “A” hereof, as classified under Section 104 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, shall be accorded the AICO rate of 3% on parts/components as specified in Column 6 thereof.

**SECTION 2.** The AICO rate provided in Annex “A” shall be accorded to the AICO entity in Thailand (Honda Automobile (Thailand) Co. Ltd.) upon the effectivity of this Executive Order;

**SECTION 3.** In the event that any subsequent changes are made in the basic (MFN) Philippine rate of duty on any of the articles listed in Annex “A” to a rate lower than the AICO rate prescribed in Column 6 of Annex “A” such articles shall automatically be accorded the corresponding reduced rate of duty.

**SECTION 4.** Upon the effectivity of this Executive Order, the articles specifically listed in the aforesaid Annex “A” which are entered or withdrawn from warehouses in the Philippines for consumption shall pay the applicable AICO preferential tariff rates specified under Section 1 hereof,



subject to qualification under the Rules of Origin for the CEPT, as evidence by the Certificate of Origin- Form “D”.

**SECTION 5.** This Executive Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Done in the City of Manila, this 23 day of July, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

*Reference:* Annex A

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 338**

AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 87, SERIES OF 2002, ENTITLED “MODIFYING THE RATES OF DUTY ON CERTAIN IMPORTED ARTICLES AS PROVIDED UNDER THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF 1978, AS AMENDED, IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THE PREFERENTIAL TARIFF RATES ON CERTAIN PRODUCTS UNDER THE ASEAN INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION (AICO) SCHEME, IN FAVOR OF HONDA CARS PHILIPPINES, INC. (HONDA) – (COE NO. HONDA/2000/10/A)”

**WHEREAS**, AICO Certificate of Eligibility No. Honda/2000/10 was issued on 19 June 2001 to Oriental Assemblers Sdn. Bhd., Honda Autoparts Manufacturing [M] Sdn. Bhd.) and Honda Cars Philippines, Inc. as participating companies in the Honda AICO Arrangement which shall qualify for 0- 5% preferential tariff rates, local content accreditation where applicable, and other privileges to be extended by Malaysia to the Philippines;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to said Certificate of Eligibility, Executive Order No. 87 dated 18 March 2002 was issued implementing tariff rates on certain products under the AICO Arrangement of Honda Cars Philippines, Inc., Oriental Assemblers Sdn. Bhd., and Honda Autoparts Manufacturing [M] Sdn. Bhd. on certain original equipment manufacture (OEM) automotive parts/components for Honda Civic passengers cars (HS Hdg. 8703.90 10);

**WHEREAS**, on 18 February 2004, AICO Certificate of Eligibility No. Honda 2000/10(A) was re-issued to Honda Malaysia Sdn Bhd., Honda Autoparts Manufacturing [M] Sdn. Bhd., and Honda Cars Philippines, Inc. thus nullifying AICO Certificate of Eligibility No. Honda/2000/10 issued to Oriental Assemblers Sdn. Bhd., Honda Autoparts Manufacturing [M] Sdn. Bhd. and Honda Cars Philippines, Inc.;

**WHEREAS**, it is thus necessary to amend Executive Order No. 87 to the effect the change of one of the participating companies from Oriental Assemblers Sdn. Bhd. to Honda Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, pursuant to the powers vested in me under Section 402 of the Tariff and Customs Code of 1978, as amended, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The fourth **WHEREAS** Clause of Executive Order No. 87 dated 18 March 2002 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“**WHEREAS**, under the Honda AICO Arrangement, the Philippines (Honda Cars Philippines) will import from Indonesia (P.T. Honda Prospect Motor) and Malaysia (Honda Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. and Honda Autoparts Manufacturing [M] Sdn. Bhd.) certain original equipment manufacture (OEM) automotive parts/components for Honda Civic passenger cars (AHTN 8703.90.26A, 8703.90.27A & 8703.90.28A). In exchange Indonesia and Malaysia will import from the Philippines other complementary parts/components for the OEM of Honda Civic.

**SECTION 2.** Section 4 of Executive Order No. 87 dated 18 March 2002 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“The AICO rate provided in Annex “B” shall be accorded to the AICO entities in Malaysia (Honda Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. and Honda Autoparts Manufacturing [M] Sdn. Bhd.), and in Indonesia (P.T. Honda Prospect Motor) upon the effectivity of this Order”.

**SECTION 3.** Annex “B” of Executive Order No. 87 dated 18 March 2002 is hereby amended to read as follows:

**ARTICLES GRANTED PREFERENTIAL TARIFF UNDER THE  
APPROVED HONDA AICO SCHEME**

| AHTN Code   | Model/<br>Type | Product<br>Description                                    | Part No.         | Source Country<br>(AICO<br>Company)                                      | Applicable<br>AICO<br>Preferential<br>Tariff (%) |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 8703.90.26A | Honda          | Various                                                   | 71101-S5A-0000MA | Malaysia (Honda                                                          | 3                                                |
| 8703.90.28A | Civic          | Parts/<br>Components<br>Face, Fr Bumper                   |                  | Malaysia Sdn.<br>Bhd and Honda<br>Autoparts<br>Manufacturing<br>Sdn Bdk) |                                                  |
| 8703.90.26A | Honda          | Face RR BPR                                               | 71501-S5A-0000MA | Malaysia (Honda                                                          | 3                                                |
| 8703.90.28A | Civic          |                                                           |                  | Malaysia Sdn.<br>Bhd and Honda<br>Autoparts<br>Manufacturing<br>Sdn Bhd. |                                                  |
| 8703.90.26A | Honda          | Various Parts/                                            | 78500-SV4-0030   | Indonesia (P.t.                                                          | 3                                                |
| 8703.90.28A | Civic          | Components:<br>Wheel Assy, Strg<br>Pad Comp Strg<br>Wheel | 78530-SV4-0030   | Honda Prospect<br>Motor)                                                 | 3                                                |

**SECTION 4.** This Executive Order shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Done in the City of Manila, Philippines, this 23 day of July, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 339**  
**MANDATING THE RATIONALIZATION OF THE OPERATIONS AND ORGANIZATION OF**  
**THE SUGAR REGULATORY ADMINISTRATION**

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of government to continually improve the quality of public service delivery, amidst the people's rising expectations and its limited resources;

**WHEREAS**, to improve service quality, departments/agencies have to review their existing programs/projects/activities, systems and procedures to enable them to focus on core functions which could contribute to the attainment of their outcome objectives and which available resources could support;

**WHEREAS**, the *Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA)*, created pursuant to RA 632 dated 6 June 1951, as amended, is one of the agencies of government which needs to pursue institutional reforms to address inconsistencies and redundancies in its present setup considering the current situation of the sugar industry and the sustainability of its operations;

**WHEREAS**, the Supreme Court has ruled in "Republic of the Philippines vs. Court of Appeals" dated 5 August 1991, that the *SRA* is neither a government-owned or controlled corporation nor a subsidiary, but an administrative agency;

**WHEREAS**, Sections 77 and 78 of the General Provisions of RA 9206 (General Appropriations Act of 2003), as reenacted, authorize the President of the Philippines to direct changes in the organizational units or key positions of any department or agency, and to require all departments/agencies of the Executive Branch to conduct a comprehensive review of their respective mandates, missions, objectives, functions, programs, projects, activities and systems and procedures, identify areas for improvement and implement structural, functional and operational adjustments to improve government's service delivery and productivity, respectively;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Rationalization of the Organization and Operations of the SRA.*** The SRA is hereby directed to review its existing functions, programs/projects/activities, and systems and procedures in order to strengthen its vital/core services and to refocus resources to priority programs and activities.

**SEC. 2. *Guidelines.*** In the implementation of the SRA rationalization, the following guidelines shall be observed:

1. The SRA shall operate and adopt the organizational structure of a regular agency of the National Government, consistent with the ruling of the Supreme Court that it is neither a government-owned or controlled corporation nor a subsidiary but an administrative body; and

2. The rationalization shall result in the reduction of its existing positions and the corresponding funding for the agency's personal services;

**SEC. 3. *Rationalization Timeframe.*** The SRA shall submit its revised organization structure and staffing pattern to the Department of Budget Management (DBM) within sixty (60) days from the signing of this Executive Order.

**SEC. 4. *Options for Personnel Who May be Affected by the Rationalization of the Functions and Organization of the SRA.*** Personnel who may be affected by the rationalization of the functions and organization of the SRA shall have the option to remain in government service, if with permanent/temporary appointment attested by the Civil Service Commission (CSC), or to retire/be separated and paid benefits as herein provided.

**SEC. 5. *Personnel Who Opt to Remain in the Service.*** Affected personnel with permanent or temporary appointment who do not want to retire or be separated from the government service shall be placed/assigned to other agencies by the CSC where additional personnel are required. Such affected personnel shall not suffer any diminution in pay, except for certain allowances that used to be given corresponding to the performance of specific functions which would no longer form part of their new functions.

Personnel who would choose to remain in government service but would later object to his/her new job assignment shall be deemed separated/retired and shall be paid retirement, separation or unemployment benefit under the regular existing retirement/separation laws, as applicable, without the incentive provided herein.

**SEC. 6. *Personnel Who Opt to Retire or Be Separated from the Service.*** Affected personnel, with appointments attested by the CSC, whether hired on a permanent or temporary basis, who opt to retire or be separated from the service, and those hired on a casual or contractual basis, if qualified, shall be given the option to avail themselves of any of the following, whichever is beneficial to them.

- 6.1 Retirement gratuity provided under RA 1616 (An Act Further Amending Section 12 of Commonwealth Act No. 186 as Amended, By Prescribing Two Modes of Retirement and for Other Purposes), as amended, payable by the SRA, plus the refund of retirement premiums payable by the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), without the incentive herein provided.
- 6.2 Retirement benefit under RA 660 (An Act to Amend Commonwealth Act No. 186 Entitled "An Act to Create and Establish a Government Service Insurance System, to Provide for its Administration, and to Appropriate the Necessary Funds therefor," and to Provide Retirement Insurance and for Other Purposes) *or* applicable retirement, separation or unemployment benefit provided under RA 8291 (An Act Amending PD 1146, as Amended, Expanding and Increasing the Coverage and Benefits of the Government Service Insurance System, Instituting Reforms Therein and for Other Purposes), if qualified, plus the following applicable incentives:
  - 6.2.1 1/2 month salary for every year of service for the first 20 years of service and a fraction thereof;
  - 6.2.2 3/4 month salary for every additional year of service from the 21st to the 30th year of service and a fraction thereof; and
  - 6.2.3 1 month salary for every additional year of service from the 31st year of service and onwards.

PROVIDED: That the GSIS shall pay, on the day of separation, the retirement/separation/unemployment benefits to which an affected employee may be entitled to under RA 660 or RA 8291 and whenever there is an option, the one which the affected employee has chosen as the most beneficial to him/her.

PROVIDED FURTHER: That for the purpose of complying with the required number of years of service under RA No. 8291, the portability scheme under RA 7699 (An Act Instituting Limited Portability Scheme in the Social Security Insurance Systems by Totalizing the Worker's Creditable Services or Contributions in Each of the Systems) may be applied, subject to existing policies and guidelines.

- 6.3 Those with less than three (3) years of government service may opt to avail of the separation gratuity under RA No. 6656 (An Act to Protect the Security of Tenure of Civil Service Officers and Employees in the Implementation of Government Reorganization), plus the appropriate incentive provided under 6.2 above.

SEC. 7. The affected personnel who opt to retire or be separated from the service shall, in addition to the applicable benefits above, be entitled to the following:

- 7.1 **Refund of Pag-IBIG Contributions.** Affected personnel who are members of the Pag-IBIG shall be entitled to the refund of their contributions (both personal and government), pursuant to existing rules and regulations of the Home Development Mutual Fund.
- 7.2 **Commutation of Unused Vacation and Sick Leave Credits.** The affected personnel shall be entitled to the commutation of unused vacation and sick leave credits in accordance with existing rules and regulations.

SEC. 8. *Prohibition on Hiring/Rehiring of Personnel.* The SRA is hereby prohibited to hire additional personnel (permanent, temporary, contractual, casual or job order) and renew the contracts/appointments of all employees hired on contractual, casual or temporary basis during the conduct of the rationalization activities.

Moreover, personnel who retire or are separated as a result of the agency's rationalization effort shall not be rehired in any agency of the National Government, including in government-owned and/or -controlled corporation/government financial institutions (GOCCs/GFIs), except in educational institutions and hospitals, within a period of five (5) years.

SEC. 9. *Period of Availability of the Benefit Package.* The retirement/separation package provided herein shall be made available not later than one hundred twenty (120) days from the signing of this Executive Order.

SEC. 10. *Funding.* Funds necessary for the implementation of the Rationalization Plan of the SRA shall be taken from the agency's current corporate operating funds. In case of funding deficiency, the National Government may provide assistance in the payment of incentives to affected personnel.

SEC. 11. *Subsequent Government Appropriations.* The DBM shall take into consideration the gradual decrease in the operating subsidy of the SRA as the organizational structure and staffing pattern are streamlined and its operations become efficient.

SEC. 12. *Implementing Guidelines.* The Sugar Board is hereby authorized to promulgate the rules and regulations, as necessary, to ensure the orderly implementation of this Executive Order.

SEC. 13. *Repealing Clause.* All issuances, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof that are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 14. *Effectivity.*** This Executive Order shall take effect upon its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

**DONE**, in the City of Manila, this **29th** day of **July**, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By Authority of the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 340**

**REORGANIZING THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN  
AUTHORITY [SBMA] AND DEFINING THE POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES OF THE  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND THE SBMA ADMINISTRATOR**

**WHEREAS**, one of the declared targets of the Government is to develop the *Subic Special Economic and Freeport Zone* [Subic Special Economic Zone] established under Republic Act No. 7227 approved on March 13, 1992 [RA 7227] and the *Clark Special Economic Zone* established by virtue of Proclamation No. 163 (s. 1993) as the best international service and logistics center in the region;

**WHEREAS**, the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority [SBMA], which was created by virtue of RA 7227, is the agency mandated to develop the Subic Special Economic Zone into a self-sustaining, industrial, commercial, financial and investment center to generate employment opportunities in and around the zone and to attract and promote productive foreign investments;

**WHEREAS**, Section 13 of RA 7227 provides that the SBMA Administrator who shall serve as the Chief Executive Officer thereof, shall also be the *ex officio* Chairman of the SBMA Board of Directors [SBMA Board];

**WHEREAS**, in view of the multifarious requirements, functions and responsibilities of the Administrator as *ex-officio* Chairman of the SBMA Board and as Chief Executive Officer of the SBMA, and to ensure the accomplishment of the Government's target to develop the Subic Special Economic Zone as the best international service and logistics center in the region, there is a need to reorganize the SBMA Board by separating and allocating the powers, functions and duties of the Chairman of the SBMA Board and the Administrator as Chief Executive Officer of the SBMA;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Reorganization.*** – The Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority [SBMA] shall be appointed by the President while the SBMA Administrator shall serve as *ex-officio* Vice-Chairman of the SBMA Board.

**SECTION 2. *Powers and Duties of SBMA Chairman.*** – The SBMA Chairman shall be the head of the agency and as such, shall have the following powers, functions and duties:

- a. To preside at all meetings of the SBMA Board;
- b. To ensure that all policies, directives, plans and programs formulated by the SBMA Board are faithfully carried out by the Administrator as Chief Executive Officer of the SBMA; and
- c. To exercise such powers and perform such functions and duties as the President may direct, or as may be assigned to him by the SBMA Board.

**SECTION 3. *Powers and Duties of SBMA Administrator.*** – The Administrator, who shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the SBMA, shall have the following powers, functions and duties:

- a. To execute, administer and implement the policies and measures approved and adopted by the SBMA Board;
- b. To directly administer and supervise the operations and day-to-day business activities of the SBMA;
- c. To represent the SBMA in all dealings with offices, agencies and instrumentalities of the Government and with all persons and entities, public or private, domestic or foreign, unless otherwise directed by the President or by the SBMA Board;
- d. To execute, on behalf of the SBMA, all contracts, agreements and other instruments affecting the interests of the SBMA duly approved by the SBMA Board;
- e. To direct and supervise the preparation of the agenda for the meetings of the SBMA Board;
- f. To preside at the meetings of the SBMA Board in the absence of the Chairman; and
- g. To exercise such other powers, functions and duties as may be provided in the By-Laws and as may directed by the President or assigned to him by the SBMA Board.

**SECTION 4. Repealing Clause.** All executive issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked, amended, or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 5. Effectivity.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, AUG 04 2004

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

**Source: Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 341

REORGANIZING THE MANILA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY [MIAA],  
MODIFYING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING  
THE MIAA TO EXERCISE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OVER ALL  
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS IN THE PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, the Manila International Airport Authority [MIAA] which was created by virtue of Executive Order No. 778 (s. 1982), otherwise known as the “*Charter of the Manila International Airport Authority*,” is an agency under the Executive Department attached to the Department of Transportation and Communications [DOTC], originally tasked to, among others, formulate a comprehensive and integrated policy and program for the Manila International Airport (now the *Ninoy Aquino International Airport*) and other airports in the Philippines, and to implement, review and upgrade such policy and program periodically;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Executive Order No. 903 (s. 1983), as amended by Executive Order Nos. 908 (s. 1983) and 298 (s. 1987), otherwise known as the “*Revised Charter of the MIAA*,” all references to the MIAA’s authority over other airports in the Philippines was deleted;

WHEREAS, pursuant to its mandate, the MIAA has acquired and developed the expertise necessary for the proper functioning of an international airport terminal, particularly with respect to its management, operation, maintenance and development to internationally-accepted standards;

WHEREAS, in order to achieve unity in policies and programs relating to the management, operation, maintenance and development of all the international airports in the country to internationally-accepted standards, it is necessary to modify and expand the powers and functions of the MIAA by authorizing and directing it to exercise administrative supervision and control over all international airports in the Philippines;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing laws, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Administrative Supervision and Control.*** – The Manila International Airport Authority [MIAA] is hereby authorized and directed to exercise administrative supervision and control over all international airports in the Philippines and shall formulate, promote and implement a comprehensive and integrated program for the management, operation, maintenance and development of all international airports in the Philippines to internationally-accepted standards.

For this purpose, the MIAA, through its General Manager, shall perform any of the following actions, with respect to the *Laoag International Airport*, the *Diosdado Macapagal International Airport* (formerly the Clark International Airport), the *Subic Bay International Airport*, the *Mactan-Cebu International Airport*, the *Francisco Bangoy International Airport* in Davao, the *General Santos International Airport*, the *Zamboanga International Airport*, and such other international airports as may be established in the Philippines:

- 
- a. Act directly on any matter involving the management, operation, maintenance or development of any of the international airports in the Philippines;
  - b. Direct any of the officials of the international airports to perform their duties or restrain the commission of acts;
  - c. Review, approve, reverse or modify acts and decisions of the governing board, officials or units of all the international airports;
  - d. Determine priorities in the execution of plans and programs; and
  - e. Prescribe standards, guidelines, plans and programs.

**SECTION 2. *Report to the President.*** – The MIAA, through its General Manager, shall submit to the President, through the Secretary of the Department of Transportation and Communications, an integrated and comprehensive annual report generally dealing with the expanded functions, activities and operations of the MIAA as provided herein.

**SECTION 3. *Rules and Regulations.*** – The MIAA, in consultation with the DOTC Secretary, is hereby authorized to issue rules and regulations for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Executive Order.

**SECTION 4. *Assistance.*** – The MIAA and the MIAA General Manager may call upon any agency or office of the Government for such assistance as may be necessary or appropriate in the performance of its/his functions as directed herein.

All heads of departments, agencies, bureaus and offices, including government-owned or controlled corporations, are hereby enjoined to render full assistance and cooperation to the MIAA and the MIAA General Manager, and to provide such information and data as may be required to carry out its/his functions pursuant to this Order.

**SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.*** – All executive issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 6. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, AUG 04 2004

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 342**

AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 118, SERIES OF 2002, WHICH DIRECTED CERTAIN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO ATTEND THE NATIONAL ANTI-POVERTY COMMISSION (NAPC) *EN BANC* MEETING, BY INCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY AND THE NATIONAL YOUTH COMMISSION AS NAPC REGULAR MEMBER AGENCIES

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 8425 institutionalized the social reform and poverty alleviation program, creating for the purpose the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) as an embodiment of equal partnership of the government and basic sectors;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 6, RA 8425, thirteen (13) government bodies are listed as NAPC members;

**WHEREAS**, the mandates of the Department of Trade and Industry and the National Youth Commission are crucial to the implementation of the social reform agenda;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and the National Youth Commission (NYC) are hereby included as regular members of the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC).

**SECTION 2.** The appropriate attached agencies of the DTI and the NYC shall also be automatically invited to NAPC to *en banc* meetings.

**SECTION 3.** All executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Order are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 4.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

Done, in the City of Manila this **04th** day of **August**, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 343**

**TRANSFERRING THE COMMISSION ON FILIPINOS OVERSEAS FROM THE DEPARTMENT  
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Commission on Filipinos Overseas, created by virtue of Batas Pambansa Blg. 79 (s. 1980), as amended by Executive Order No. 708 (s. 1981), Executive Order No. 728 (s. 1981), and Executive Order No. 346 (s. 1996), is the government agency under the Office of the President mandated to formulate general policies for the promotion of the welfare of Filipinos overseas, and provide functional direction for its programs and operations;

**WHEREAS**, recognizing the unprecedented and phenomenal increase in the number of Filipinos overseas, the Government is committed to strengthen its efforts towards protecting the rights and welfare of Filipinos overseas, including their protection from the deprivations of domestic recruiters as well as of overseas employers, agents and officials, and their protection from physical harm;

**WHEREAS**, under Republic Act No. 8042 (s. 1996), the Commission on Filipinos Overseas is an agency attached to the Department of Foreign Affairs;

**WHEREAS**, in order to effectively oversee and supervise the Government's efforts towards strengthening overseas workers' protection, there is a need to transfer the Commission on Filipinos Overseas from the Department of Foreign Affairs to the Office of the President;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, the President has the continuing authority to recognize the administrative structure of the Office of the President;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me under the Constitution and existing laws, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Transfer.*** – The Commission on Filipinos Overseas is hereby transferred from the Department of Foreign Affairs to the Office of the President.

**SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause.*** All executive issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 3. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, AUG 05 2004

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.



MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 344**

CREATING THE OFFICE OF THE POLITICAL ADVISER IN THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,  
DEFINING ITS MANDATE AND RESPONSIBILITIES, AND CREATING THE OFFICE OF  
POLITICAL COALITION AFFAIRS AND THE OFFICE FOR CONSTITUENCY AFFAIRS

**WHEREAS**, the task of enacting legislation, as well as coordinating political support for the Government's national agenda for growth, stability and good governance involves coordination not only between the Legislative and Executive Branches of Government, but also between the Government and the various political parties, and between the Government and the various basic sectors of society and other relevant constituencies;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need for an office in the Office of the President to coordinate and streamline the functional operations of the offices and agencies charged with legislative liaising, and party and constituency relations;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, the President has the continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the Office of the President;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law and the Constitution, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Office of the Political Adviser.*** – There is hereby created the Office of the Political Adviser [OPA] under the Office of the President, to be headed by a Political Adviser, who shall have the rank and emoluments of a Cabinet Secretary, to coordinate the legislative and political coalition liaising and constituency building efforts of the Office of the President.

**SECTION 2. *Coordinating and Oversight Mechanism.*** – The OPA shall have oversight over the following offices, without diminution of their respective powers and functions: (a) the Presidential Legislative Liaison Office [PLLO]; (b) the Office of Political Coalition Affairs, created under Section 3 hereof; and (c) the Office for Constituency Affairs, created under Section 4 hereof.

**SECTION 3. *Office of Political Coalition Affairs.*** – There is hereby created the Office of Political Coalition Affairs [OPCA], headed by an Executive Director, which shall address the requirements and objectives of the Office of the President towards the participation and support of the various political parties and groups behind the development and implementation of the administration's program of government.

The Political Affairs Office in the Office of the President is hereby merged with the OPCA and shall be re-engineered in accordance with Section 5 hereof.

**SECTION 4. *Office for Constituency Affairs.*** – There is hereby created the Office for Constituency Affairs [OCA], headed by an Executive Director, which shall directly address the requirements and objectives of the Office of the President towards the participation of the basic sectors and constituencies in the development and implementation of the administration's program of government.

**SECTION 5. *Organizational Structure.*** – The Executive Director of the OPCA and the OCA, in coordination with the Political Adviser, shall formulate and establish the organizational structure and staffing pattern of their respective offices, composed of such administrative and technical personnel as

may be deemed necessary to efficiently and effectively carry out the functions and duties prescribed herein, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management.

**SECTION 6. *Abolition of Legislative Secretariat.*** – The Legislative Secretariat in the Office of the President is hereby abolished, and its functions, duties and responsibilities are hereby transferred to the PLLO. Its personnel and budget shall be retained in the Office of the President.

**SECTION 7. *Funding.*** – The funds to support the operations of the OPA, OPCA and OCA shall be sourced from the existing budget of the Office of the President. Fund requirements for the OPA, OPCA and OCA for the succeeding years shall be prepared in accordance with the regular government budget procedures and shall be included in the budget of the Office of the President.

**SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.*** – All issuances, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 9. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, AUG 09 2004

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

*Source:* Malacañang Records Office

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 345**

**TRANSFERRING THE PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL TRADING CORPORATION FROM THE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine International Trading Corporation [PITC], created by virtue of Presidential Decree No. 252 (s. 1973), as amended, has been designated as a key agency in the implementation of the President's 10-Point Legacy that will be pursued by her administration in the next six (6) years;

**WHEREAS**, under Executive Order No. 326 issued on July 9, 2004, the Governing Board of the PITC was reorganized for greater coordination and supervision;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 15(4), Chapter 7, Title X, Book IV of the Administrative Code of 1987, the PITC is classified as a line corporate agency and government entity under the Department of Trade and Industry [DTI], under the supervision of the Undersecretary for International Trade;

**WHEREAS**, in order to closely monitor and oversee the efficient and effective implementation of the Government's commitment under the President's 10-Point Legacy, there is a need to transfer the PITC from the DTI to the Office of the President;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, the President has the continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the Office of the President;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Transfer.*** – The Philippine International Trading Corporation [PITC] is hereby transferred from the Department of Trade and Industry to the Office of the President.

**SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause.*** – All executive issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked, amended, or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 3. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, AUG 09 2004

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 346**  
**TRANSFERRING THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE (IPO) FROM THE OFFICE OF THE**  
**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY**

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) is the primary coordinative, promotive, facilitative and regulatory arm of the Executive Branch of government in the area of trade, industry and investment;

**WHEREAS**, the Intellectual Property Office (IPO) was established to act as the principal government agency tasked to oversee and implement state policies on the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights;

**WHEREAS**, in order to facilitate coordination of policies and programs between these agencies, it is necessary to place the IPO under the DTI;

**WHEREAS**, Section 31 (3), Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, authorizes the President to “[T]ransfer any agency under the Office of the President to any other department or agency x x x”.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the following:

**SECTION 1.** The Intellectual Property Office (IPO) is hereby transferred from the Office of the Executive Secretary, and attached to the Department of Trade and Industry.

**SECTION 2.** All orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 3.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this **9th** day of August, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

*Source: Malacañang Records Office*

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE PHILIPPINES  
MALACAÑANG

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 347**  
**AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 314**

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 314 dated April 30, 2004, as amended by Executive Order No. 317 dated June 8, 2004, entitled “CREATING THE PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON VALUES FORMATION” was issued to institutionalize just and moral governance;

WHEREAS, there is a need to change the nature of the institution to keep the private sector nature of the desired membership;

NOW, THEREFORE I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

Section 1. The Presidential Commission on Values Formation created by Executive Order No. 314 is hereby transformed into an Ad Hoc Council on Values Formation (AHCVF). The Council shall be headed by the President as Chairperson and the Secretary of Education as Vice-Chairperson. The rest of the membership of the Council shall be composed of religious leaders as invited by the President.

Section 2. Except for the President and the Secretary of Education, the members of the Council shall retain their character as private citizens without government remuneration. The administrative requirements of the Council shall be serviced by a Secretary-General who shall be a government official.

Section 3. The Council shall be a means by which government may work hand-in-hand with civil society and the private sector in establishing a strong foundation for moral value formation in the government bureaucracy.

Section 4. The Council shall design and assist in the implementation of programs such as but not limited to seminars and congresses for the purpose of inculcating values such as honesty, modesty, integrity and good work ethics in the government bureaucracy.

Section 5. The Council may make recommendations to the President with regard to any duly supported and substantiated information on incorrigible and undesirable government personnel. Any member of the Council may appear as complainant in any case filed pursuant to such recommendations before the appropriate agency.

Section 6. The Council shall coordinate with and support non-governmental organizations and the private sector in the effort to eradicate from the government bureaucracy the culture of graft and corruption, patronage politics, apathy, passivity, mendicancy, factionalism and lack of patriotism and to replace the same with honest public service and love of country.

Section 7. The funds to support and implement this Order shall be taken from such source as may be identified by the Department of Budget and Management, subject to applicable accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

Section 8. All previous Executive Orders, other Presidential issuances and rules and regulations which are inconsistent herewith are hereby modified accordingly.

Section 9. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Done in the City of Manila, this 11th day of August, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 348**

**CREATING THE OFFICE OF THE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR TO DIRECT THE  
OPERATIONS OF OFFICES IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR MASS MEDIA AND THE PUBLIC  
INFORMATION SYSTEM OF THE GOVERNMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the task of informing and communicating to the public the policies, programs, achievements and activities of the Presidency and the Executive Branch involves several offices and agencies, each functioning in accordance with their respective mandates;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need for an office to coordinate and streamline the functional operations of these offices and agencies charged with public relations, public information, and news and information dissemination relative to the Presidency and the administration;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, the President has the continuing authority to reorganize the administration structure of the Office of the President.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** There is hereby created the Office of the Communications Director (OCD), to be headed by a Communications Director who shall have the rank of Secretary, to coordinate the dissemination, through the mass media, of policies, programs, achievements, reports and activities of the President and the administration.

**SECTION 2.** In addition to its primary functions, the OCD shall:

- a. Systematize the various functions of different offices and agencies involved in information dissemination to ensure message consistency and integration;
- b. Rationalize and strengthen public relations and communications structures in the Office of the President and the Office of the Press Secretary (OPS);
- c. Improve teamwork and cohesion between and among groups, offices and agencies covered by the Executive Order, namely:
  - i. The OPS and the bureaus and agencies under or attached to it;
  - ii. The Philippine Information Agency (PIA) and agencies under or attached to it;
  - iii. The Correspondence Office;
  - iv. The Speech Writers Group;
  - v. The Communications Research Group; and
  - vi. The Government-owned Media Group.

The administrative relationship between the OCD and the foregoing agencies and/or offices is shown in Annex "A" hereto attached and made an integral part hereof;

- 
- d. Maintain a Communications Research Group to conduct polls and opinion research, and coordinate similar activities within the Government towards broadening and deepening public appreciation of policies and programs;
  - e. Maintain a Crisis Communication Team to assist in meeting extraordinary issues affecting the Government;
  - f. Build teamwork among public information offices within the different departments and agencies, and promote high standards of communication and cost-effective public information delivery;
  - g. Formulate, issue and implement such guidelines as may be necessary to set the information coordination and integration mechanisms in place; and
  - h. Perform such other functions as the President may assign from time to time.

**SECTION 3.** The Communications Director shall be assisted by a Deputy Communications Director (DCD) and a Chief of Staff (CoS), both of whom shall have the rank of Undersecretary. The Communications Director shall organize his office and shall delineate the respective functional areas of the DCD and CoS.

**SECTION 4.** The Presidential Spokesperson shall assume the functions of the Press Secretary and shall exercise control and supervision over the Radio-TV Malacañang (RTVM) and the News and Information Bureau (NIB). The Bureau of Broadcast Services (BBS) and the Bureau of Communication Services (BCS) are hereby placed under the control and supervision of the Group Head for Government Mass Media, created in Section 6 hereof.

**SECTION 5.** The National Printing Office (NPO) and the APO Production Unit are hereby transferred and attached to the PIA.

**SECTION 6.** Government-owned media entities are hereby grouped together under the supervision of a Group Head for Government Mass Media, who shall be of cabinet rank and who shall be appointed or elected to the Boards of Directors of the following:

- a. The Journal Group;
- b. RPN-Channel 9, as Chairman;
- c. NBN-Channel 4, as Chairman; and
- d. IBC-Channel 13.

**SECTION 7.** The Correspondence Office of the Office of the President and the Speech Writers Group (SWG) of the Presidential Management Staff are hereby placed under the operational supervision of the OCD.

**SECTION 8.** Except as may be required under this Executive Order, all covered officials, offices and agencies shall continue with the discharge of their respective functions and responsibilities as defined under existing law or issuances.

**SECTION 9.** Funding of the OCD shall be sourced from the Office of the Press Secretary and succeeding years' appropriations of the OCD shall be prepared in accordance with the regular government budget procedures.

**SECTION 10.** All orders, rules, regulations and issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 11.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.



City of Manila, AUG 11 2004

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Reference:* Annex A

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 349**

**ESTABLISHING CLEAR LINES OF AUTHORITY OVER THE COUNCIL FOR THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN/NATIONAL EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COUNCIL SECRETARIAT**

**WHEREAS**, education improvement and youth opportunity are among the President's five key packages on jobs creation and economic growth;

**WHEREAS**, in line with the President's announcement that instead of requiring a fifth year in high school, the government will incorporate pre-school in the education ladder to encourage early childhood development, there is a need to strengthen the implementation of the early childhood development program of the Department of Education;

**WHEREAS**, the *Council for the Welfare of Children* [CWC] created under Presidential Decree No. 603 (s. 1974), as amended by Executive Order No. 233 (s. 1987), was created with the primary function of coordinating the implementation and enforcement of all laws relative to the promotion of child and youth welfare;

**WHEREAS**, by virtue of Republic Act No. 8980 (s. 2000) [RA 8980], the CWC also functions as the *National Early Childhood Care and Development Coordinating Council* [National ECCD Coordinating Council], which was organized to ensure the sustained inter-agency and multi-sectoral collaboration from the national, provincial, city/municipal to barangay levels to institutionalize a national system for Early Childhood Care and Development [ECCD];

**WHEREAS**, under RA 8980, the CWC Secretariat, which also serves as the Secretariat of the National ECCD Coordinating Council, shall be headed by an Executive Director, and assisted by two (2) Deputy Executive Directors, one of whom shall be exclusively concerned with ECCD programs and activities and the other exclusively with the existing functions of the CWC;

**WHEREAS**, to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of the Government's Early Childhood Development Program, there is a need to establish clear lines of authority and accountability by directing certain cabinet officials to exercise oversight functions over the CWC/National ECCD Coordinating Council Secretariat;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. ECCD Concerns.** – The Secretary of Education is hereby directed to exercise primary oversight functions over the Deputy Executive Director of the CWC/National ECCD Coordinating Council Secretariat exclusively concerned with Early Childhood Care and Development [ECCD] Programs to oversee and monitor the effective and efficient implementation of the Government's Early Childhood Development Program.

**SECTION 2. Other CWC Concerns.** – The Secretary of the Department of Social Work and Development [DSWD] is hereby directed to exercise primary oversight functions over the Deputy Executive Director of the CWC/National ECCD Coordinating Council Secretariat exclusively concerned with all other functions of the CWC.

SECTION 3. *Repealing Clause.* – All executive issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 4. *Effectivity.* – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, AUG 17 2004

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO

Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 350**  
**TRANSFERRING THE BOARD OF LIQUIDATORS (BOL) FROM THE OFFICE OF THE**  
**PRESIDENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE**

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Finance (DoF) is responsible for the generation and management of the financial resources of government, ensuring that said resources are generated and managed judiciously and in a manner supportive of the development objectives of government;

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Liquidators (BOL) is tasked with hastening the disposition of a number of non-performing assets under its administration;

**WHEREAS**, the DoF is likewise tasked with hastening the privatization of non-performing assets and government corporations which have been found unnecessary or inappropriate for government to maintain;

**WHEREAS**, in order to facilitate coordination between these agencies, it is necessary to place the BOL under the DoF;

**WHEREAS**, Section 31 (3), Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, authorizes the President to “[T]ransfer any agency under the Office of the President to any other department or agency x x x”.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The Board of Liquidators is hereby transferred from the Office of the President to the Department of Finance.

**SECTION 2.** All orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 3.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 30th day of July, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 351**

**RECOGNIZING THE UNION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES OF THE PHILIPPINES (ULAP) AS THE  
UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION OF ALL THE LEAGUES OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS  
(LGUs) AND LEAGUES AND FEDERATIONS OF LOCAL ELECTIVE AND  
APPOINTIVE OFFICIALS**

**WHEREAS**, the Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP) was formed in 1998 as the umbrella organization of all leagues of local government units (LGUs) and leagues and federations of local elective and appointive officials;

**WHEREAS**, in order to carry out its purposes and mandate, there is a need to recognize ULAP as the umbrella organization of all its members, to further strengthen its vital role as a major stakeholder in nation building.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines or ULAP is hereby duly recognized as the umbrella organization of all the leagues of local government units, and the leagues and federations of local elective and appointive officials.

**SECTION 2.** ULAP shall promote more efficient and effective networking and consensus-building among its members particularly in addressing issues on local autonomy and governance.

**SECTION 3.** ULAP shall derive funds from annual assessment fees, special contributions or donations of provinces and cities, and from annual dues from its member-leagues or federations, at the rate to be determined by the ULAP and duly-recognized by the Department of the Interior and Local Government through a corresponding Memorandum Circular for that purpose, provided that no funding requirement of ULAP shall be charged to the National Government. It may, in support of its programs and projects, secure financial assistance or undertake fund-raising activities, subject to the pertinent provisions of the Local Government Code and the Omnibus Election Code.

**SECTION 4.** ULAP's specific objectives and purposes, membership rules, and other matters affecting its internal organization shall be governed by its constitution and by-laws and such appropriate rules and regulations as may be promulgated by its National Executive Board and General Executive Council, provided that said constitution, by-laws and rules and regulations shall always conform to the provisions of the Philippine Constitution and existing laws.

**SECTION 5.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 17th day of August, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) ALBERTO G. ROMULO  
Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 352**  
**CREATING THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER FOR NEW**  
**GOVERNMENT CENTERS, DEFINING ITS MANDATE, POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**  
**AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**WHEREAS**, one of the declared priorities of the Government is the promotion of regional development and the decentralization of government departments and agencies through the transfer and establishment of new government centers [NGCs] outside Metro Manila;

**WHEREAS**, there is an urgent need to establish an office which shall assume the primary responsibility of advising the President on matters pertaining to the transfer of select government agencies to specific regions or areas where they are needed the most;

**WHEREAS**, under the Administrative Code of 1987 and other existing laws, the President has the continuing authority to reorganize the administrative structure of the Office of the President;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Creation.*** – The Office of the Presidential Adviser for New Government Centers [OPANGC] is hereby created under the Office of the President, to be headed by the Presidential Adviser for New Government Centers [NGCs], who shall have the rank and emoluments of a Cabinet Secretary.

**SECTION 2. *Mandate.*** – The Presidential Adviser for NGCs shall advise the President on the programs, policies and projects for the promotion of regional development and the decentralization of government departments and agencies through the transfer and establishment of NGCs outside Metro Manila to regions where they are needed most.

**SECTION 3. *Powers and Functions.*** – The Presidential Adviser for NGCs shall have the following powers and functions:

- a. Identification of ideal sites for proposed NGCs outside Metro Manila, with emphasis on unutilized government-owned buildings and facilities that will house the departments and other national government agencies whose central offices have been previously decided to be transferred or relocated outside Metro Manila;
- b. Conduct consultations with concerned local government officials, the business sector, the academe, concerned civil society groups and other interest groups, in order to gain insights, reactions, acceptability, viability and sponsorship of the identified sites for the establishment of NGCs;
- c. Evaluate and rank the identified sites as possible venues for the establishment of NGCs according, but not limited to, the following criteria:
  - (1) Accessibility;
  - (2) Proximity to the most number of target clients;
  - (3) Peace and order situation;

- 
- (4) Presence of adequate facilities;
  - (5) Support of the local government units;
  - (6) Capital requirements; and
  - (7) Acceptability by the employees of the concerned department/agency and by the local residents.
- d. Ensure that support facilities (such as access roads, telecommunications facilities, housing, etc.) service and other required facilities are available in the sites recommended to be established as NGCs;
  - e. Promote NGCs to be established by attracting locators and support of various groups to achieve the goals for the setting up of the said government centers;
  - f. Facilitate the access to national government funding support for the local development plans and programs of the host regions such as provisions for farm-to-market roads, irrigation facilities, post-harvest facilities, roads and bridges, railways and official development assistance packages; and
  - g. Perform such other functions as the President may direct.

**SECTION 4. *Technical and Administrative Support.*** – The Presidential Adviser for NGCs is hereby authorized to formulate the organizational structure of his office, composed of such administrative and technical personnel as may be deemed necessary to efficiently and effectively carry out the functions and duties as prescribed herein.

**SECTION 5. *Assistance.*** – The Presidential Adviser for NGCs may call upon any agency or office of the Government for such assistance as may be necessary or appropriate in the performance of his functions.

All heads of departments, agencies, bureaus and offices, including government-owned or controlled corporations, are hereby enjoined to render full assistance and cooperation to the Presidential Adviser for NGCs and to provide such information and data as may be required to carry out his functions pursuant to this Order.

**SECTION 6. *Funding.*** – The funds to support the operations of the Office of the Presidential Adviser for NGCs shall be sourced from the existing budget of the Office of the President. Fund requirements for the OPANGC for the succeeding years shall be prepared in accordance with the regular government budget procedures and shall be included in the budget of the Office of the President.

**SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.*** – All executive issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 8. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.



City of Manila, AUG 27 2004

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) EDUARDO R. ERMITA  
Acting Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 353**  
**REORGANIZING THE NATIONAL ANTI-POVERTY COMMISSION BY INCREASING THE**  
**COMPOSITION THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 8425 (s. 1997), otherwise known as the “*Social Reform and Poverty Alleviation Act*” [RA 8425], institutionalized the social reform and poverty alleviation program, creating for the purpose the National Anti-Poverty Commission [NAPC] as the coordinating and advisory body for the implementation of the Social Reform Agenda adopted in Section 4 thereof;

**WHEREAS**, Section 6 of RA 8425 lists thirteen (13) national government agencies constituting the regular official composition of the NAPC;

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 118 (s. 2002) mandates the participation of seven (7) additional agencies and their respective attached agencies in the *en banc* meetings of the NAPC;

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 342 (s. 2004) included the Department of Trade and Industry [DTI] and the National Youth Commission [NYC], as regular members of the NAPC;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to reorganize the composition of the NAPC for greater coordination and supervision to ensure the effective implementation of the Government’s Social Reform Agenda;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Composition.*** – The composition of the National Anti-Poverty Commission [NAPC] is hereby reorganized to include the Vice-President of the Philippines who shall serve as *ex-officio* Alternate Chairman of the NAPC.

The Lead Convenor of the NAPC, who shall be appointed by the President either from the government or the private sector and who shall likewise serve as the head of the NAPC Secretariat, shall also be known as the NAPC *Secretary-General*.

**SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause.*** – Executive Order Nos. 118 (s. 2002) and 342 (s. 2004) are hereby amended or modified accordingly. All other executive issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked, amended, or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 3. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, AUG 24 2004

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:  
(Sgd.) EDUARDO R. ERMITA  
Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 354**  
**ABOLISHING THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER FOR REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT, TRANSFERRING ITS FUNCTIONS, PERSONNEL, BUDGET AND ASSETS  
TO THE OFFICE FOR CONSTITUENCY AFFAIRS IN THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

**WHEREAS**, socio-economic development involves coordinating political support for the national government's development agenda among local government units, various basic sectors of society and other constituencies;

**WHEREAS**, Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987, authorizes the President to reorganize the administrative structure of the Office of the President.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Abolition.*** – The Office of the Presidential Adviser for Regional Development (OPARD) created under Executive Order No. 44, series of 2001 is hereby abolished.

**SECTION 2. *Transfer of Functions, Personnel, Budget and Assets.*** – Except for the Presidential Assistant for Mindanao which is merged with the Mindanao Economic Development Council, the functions, personnel, budget and assets of OPARD are hereby transferred to the Office for Constituency Affairs under the Office of the President.

**SECTION 3. *Repealing Clause.*** – All issuances, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 4. *Effectivity.*** – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila, AUG 30 2004

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **EDUARDO R. ERMITA**

Acting Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 355**  
**ABOLISHING THE PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEE ON EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE**  
**AND TRANSFERRING ITS FUNCTIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT**  
**OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Presidential Committee on Effective Governance (PCEG) was created by Executive Order No. 165 (s. 1999) to re-engineer the bureaucracy for better governance, and the PCEG has submitted various recommendations in relation thereto;

**WHEREAS**, one of the powers and functions of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) is the assessment of organizational effectiveness;

**WHEREAS**, the Administrative Code of 1987 grants the President continuing authority to reorganize the National Government;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The Presidential Committee on Effective Governance is hereby abolished, and its functions are hereby transferred to the Department of Budget and Management.

**SECTION 2.** All orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 3.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE** in the City of Manila, this 8th day of September, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:  
(Sgd.) **EDUARDO R. ERMITA**  
Acting Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 356**  
**RENAMING THE BUREAU OF NON-FORMAL EDUCATION TO BUREAU**  
**OF ALTERNATIVE LEARNING SYSTEM**

**WHEREAS**, it is a declared State policy, “to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality basic education and to promote the right of all citizens to quality basic education and such education accessible to all by providing all Filipino children in the elementary level and free education in the high school level. Such education shall also include alternative learning system for out-of-school youth and adult learners.” (Section 2 of R.A. 9155, The Governance of Basic Education Act of 2001)

**WHEREAS**, Section 12.1 Rules XII of R.A. 9155 stipulates that “the alternative Learning System is a parallel learning system to provide a viable alternative to the existing formal education instruction, encompassing both the non formal and informal sources of knowledge and skills”;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Education, through the Bureau of Non formal Education is mandated to ensure that all learning needs of marginalized learners are addressed;

**WHEREAS**, one of the most important initiatives in Non formal Education in the Philippines in the last 10 years is the Alternative Learning System (ALS), which is a major component of basic education with a clearly defined role within the overall educational goals;

**WHEREAS**, the ALS will respond to the need of a more systematic and flexible approach in reaching to all types of learners outside the school system;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1.** The Bureau of Non formal Education is hereby renamed to Bureau of Alternative Learning System (BALS).

**SEC. 2.** The Bureau of Alternative Learning System shall have the following functions:

- a. Address the learning needs of the marginalized groups of the population including the deprived, depressed and underserved citizens;
- b. Coordinate with various agencies for skills development to enhance and ensure continuing employability, efficiency, productivity, and competitiveness in the labor market;
- c. Ensure the expansion of access to educational opportunities for citizens of different interests, capabilities, demographic characteristics and socio-economic origins and status; and
- d. Promote certification and accreditation of alternative learning programs both formal and informal in nature for basic education.

**SEC. 3.** Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this Executive Order shall be taken from the present funds available in the Department of Education and shall thereafter be included in the General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 4. All orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 5. This Executive Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette.

Done in the City of Manila, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of **September**, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **EDUARDO R. ERMITA**

Acting Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑANG  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 357**  
**PURSUING THE RATIONALIZATION OF THE ORGANIZATION AND SUPERVISION**  
**OF AGENCIES UNDER/ATTACHED TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 72 was issued by the President on February 11, 2002 to rationalize the organization and supervision of agencies, task forces and other bodies under or attached to the Office of the President (OP);

**WHEREAS**, the intent of EO 72 is to enhance the capacity of the President in the overall management of government affairs, and in the supervision of the various agencies requiring greater Presidential attention, by unloading the OP of the direct responsibility of supervising agencies whose functions are properly aligned with/subsumed under other departments;

**WHEREAS**, there are agencies under/attached to OP whose existence have to be rationalized as they have accomplished their mandate or are performing functions similar or related to those of other departments, agencies and local government units;

**WHEREAS**, Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of Executive Order No. 292 (Administrative Code of 1987) provides continuing authority to the President to reorganize the administrative structure of the OP.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. *Implementation of the Dispositive Actions for the Other Agencies, Task Forces and Other Bodies Under/Attached to OP.*** Consistent with the policy, objectives and processes on the rationalization of the organization and supervision of agencies under/attached to OP, as adopted under EO 72, Series of 2002, the following shall be affected:

A. Abolition of the following agencies (10):

1. Agno River Basin Development Commission
2. Atlas Commission
3. Movie and Television Review and Classification Board Appeals Committee
4. Official Development Assistance Absorption Office
5. Office of the Presidential Adviser on Agricultural Modernization
6. Public-Private Sector Task Force to Coordinate Philippine Participation in the Post-War Reconstruction of Iraq
7. Office of the Presidential Adviser for Constitutional Reforms
8. Office of the Presidential Adviser for Strategic Projects
9. Presidential Commission for the Central Luzon Growth Corridor
10. Office of the Anti-Smuggling Presidential Adviser



B. Abolition of the following agencies and transfer to and/or merger with other departments/agencies (4):

11. **North Luzon Development Plan Management Office** – its personnel to be absorbed by the Office of the Presidential Adviser for North Luzon;
12. **Presidential Assistant for Mindanao** – its functions to be merged with the Mindanao Economic Development Council (MEDCO);
13. **Bipartisan Executive-Legislative Advisory Council on the Sabah Issues** – its functions to be transferred to the Department of Foreign Affairs;
14. **Office of the Presidential Adviser for Special Concerns** – its remaining budget to be transferred to the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Communications

**SECTION 2. *Disposition of Functions, Positions, Personnel, Assets and Liabilities of Abolished Agencies.*** The winding-up of the operations of the affected agencies under Section 1 hereof, specifically the disposition of their functions, positions, personnel, assets and liabilities, shall be governed by the Rules and Regulations Implementing EO 72 dated March 15, 2002. The winding-up plan shall be completed not later than ninety (90) days after the effectivity of this EO.

The Office of the Executive Secretary, with the assistance of the Department of Budget and Management, shall ensure the smooth and efficient implementation of the dispositive actions and winding-up of the activities of these agencies.

**SECTION 3. *Effectivity.*** This Executive Order shall take effect upon its publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

Done in the City of Manila, this 14th day of **Sept.**, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and four.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **EDUARDO R. ERMITA**

Acting Executive Secretary

Source: **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). [*Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400*]. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

MALACAÑAN PALACE  
MANILA

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 358**

**TO INSTITUTIONALIZE A LADDERIZED INTERFACE BETWEEN TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL  
EDUCATION AND TRAINING (TVET) AND HIGHER EDUCATION (HE)**

WHEREAS, the agenda of this administration prioritizes the creation of six to ten million jobs and the expansion of youth opportunities;

WHEREAS, the present compartmentalization of TVET and HE hinders the recognition and accreditation of competence in technical-vocational skills HE and vice-versa;

NOW, THEREFORE, I GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby order the following:

SECTION 1. The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) in consultation with the concerned sectors and stakeholders shall develop and implement a unified national qualifications framework that establishes equivalency pathways and access ramps for a ladderized system allowing for easier transitions and progressions between TVET and HE.

SECTION 2. The framework shall include, as far as practicable, but not limited to, the following unified qualification and articulation mechanisms: National System of Credit Transfer, Post-TVET Bridging Programs, System of Enhanced Equivalency, Adoption of Ladderized Curricula/Programs, Modularized Program Approach, Competency-Based Programs, Network of Dual-Sector Colleges or Universities, Accreditation/Recognition of Prior Learning.

SECTION 3. The Professional Regulatory Commission, Department of Labor and Employment, Department of Education, Department of Science and Technology, Department of Trade and Industry, and Department of Budget and Management shall extend to the TESDA and CHED the necessary support in the operationalization of unified national qualifications framework to be developed and implemented. Likewise, other agencies both in the public and private sectors, including non-governmental organizations, business groups, professional associations and similar entities both foreign and local may be tapped for consultations.

SECTION 4. To ensure efficient and effective implementation, TESDA and CHED shall organize from their present staff complements a permanent Technical Secretariat. The Secretariat may contract the services of technical experts and authorities on relevant areas of concern such as equivalencies, accreditation, curriculum development, educational measurement and testing.

SECTION 5. TESDA and CHED shall ensure that the system, implementing mechanism, policies, guidelines and other necessary procedures and documentation are completed within six (6) months from the issuance of this Executive Order. In addition, ninety (90) days after the completion and adoption of the system, the two agencies shall oversee the nationwide implementation of the framework in identified program areas and in selected or identified TVET and HE institutions. The equivalency pathways and access ramps shall provide for the transferability and/or recognition, interface of credits, coursework and competencies between institutions.

SECTION 6. TESDA and CHED shall jointly implement national pilot programs based on the system to be developed in order to determine its fitness of purpose and relevance in the tertiary

education sector and with the view of expanding the number and coverage of courses involving TVET providers and HE institutions.

SECTION 7. TESDA and CHED shall ensure regular and effective communication and feedback on the progress and accomplishments with respect to the implementation of this Executive Order.

SECTION 8. The amount necessary for the development of the system shall be sourced from the budgets and development funds of TESDA and CHED.

Both agencies are authorized to create special accounts for the purpose of implementing the system and the provisions of this Executive Order.

As additional funding source, TESDA and CHED may tap international funding agencies for donations and grants.

SECTION 9. If any provision of the Executive Order shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions shall remain effective.

SECTION 10. All orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 11. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Done in the City of Manila, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and four.

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

By the President:

(Sgd.) EDUARDO R. ERMITA

Acting Executive Secretary

Source: Malacañang Records Office

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE PHILIPPINES  
MALACAÑANG

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 359**  
**CREATING THE BICOL RIVER BASIN PROJECT MANAGEMENT OFFICE**  
**AND DEFINING ITS SCOPE OF AUTHORITY**

WHEREAS, the River Basin and Watershed Management Project is a six-year project to be funded by a World Bank loan;

WHEREAS, the Project has two major components, namely: 1) Bicol River Basin Management Component; and 2) Water Resources Management Component;

WHEREAS, the Bicol River Basin Management Component which will pilot the integrated water resources management approach on the ground is further subdivided into four subcomponents. These are: 1) Institutional Strengthening; 2) Watershed Development and Management to be led by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and co-implemented by the Local Government Units (LGUs) within the Bicol River Basin; 3) Irrigation Management to be implemented by the National Irrigation Administration; and 4) Flood Mitigation to be implemented by the Department of Public Works and Highways;

WHEREAS, the total project cost is estimated at \$30 Million, around \$22 Million of which is expected to come from the World Bank;

WHEREAS, there is a need to consult with provincial and municipal LGUs within the River Basin to confirm their willingness to spend for the Project and borrow resources for project activities which are considered devolved, e.g., communal forest development/management, livelihood and basic infrastructure including water systems);

WHEREAS, to coordinate and oversee the implementation of the Bicol River Basin Component as well as other activities within the region related to water resources management, the Regional Development Council of Region V agreed early in 2004 to propose to the President of the Philippines the creation of a Bicol River Basin Board;

WHEREAS, a project management office with clear accountability is superior to a board;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the following:

**Section 1. Project Management Office and Scope of Authority and Responsibility.**

There is hereby created a Bicol River Project Management Office within the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), with the following personnel:

Project Management Officer with the rank of Undersecretary;  
Deputy Project Management Officer with the rank of Assistant Secretary;  
Technical staff seconded from each of the following agencies: NEDA, DPWH, DA,  
NIA, BFAR, DILG, BLGF, DBM, NWRB, LBP, NPC; and  
Technical staff recruited from the academe

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The Project Management Office shall have the following authorities and responsibilities:

- a. Coordinate and where necessary initiate and carry out the formulation, implementation and monitoring of water and watershed policies, studies, management actions and investments in the river basin consistent with the ecological principle of using the river basin as a unit of management, the institutional principle of stakeholder participation and devolution of action at the lowest possible level and the instrument principle of managing watershed and water resources as an economic good or a scarce resource using incentives and economic principles;
- b. Develop and update the Bicol River Basin and Watershed Strategic Framework;
- c. Organize the implementing structures, establish implementation policies, delegate authorities and responsibilities and call on other government agencies, financial institutions and donors, as needed to undertake basin wide programs and projects subject to applicable policies;
- d. Establish and maintain a structural consultation process at the appropriate executive levels with provincial, city and municipal LGUs, and representatives from people's organizations (irrigators, upland farmers, fisherfolk, water users' associations, indigenous peoples' groups) and from the private sector and civil society organizations based in the Bicol Region (academe, media, NGOs);
- e. Develop a portfolio of LGU projects in the river basin;
- f. Support/undertake and/or coordinate the appraisal and feasibility studies of individual projects;
- g. Assist LGUs in the packaging and documentation of their projects for submission to financing institutions;
- h. Manage and coordinate the implementation of the sub-projects under the River Basin Watershed Management Project;
- i. Support the LGUs, together with concerned line agencies, in the implementation of LGU sub-projects;
- j. Facilitate the coordination and implementation of activities between the different agencies involved in management and development of the Bicol river basin;
- k. Coordinate and plan with the relevant line agencies and LGUs to ensure proper operation and maintenance of the hydraulic infrastructures in the Bicol River Basin, including during periods of natural disaster, water scarcity and flood conditions;
- l. Collect and manage data and information pertaining to water and land use in the Bicol River Basin;
- m. Administer finance and procurement; and
- n. Undertake other duties and functions as may be necessary to perform its mandate.

#### Section 2. Budget.

Funds for the operation of the Bicol River Basin Project Management Office shall be provided by DENR.

#### Section 3. The Project Management Office and Existing Agencies.

Nothing in this Order shall be construed as effecting the diminution of powers of existing government agencies. The relationship between the Project Management Office and existing entities shall be one of complementary, synergy and coordination to ensure that the ecological, institutional and instrument principles in river basin management and development are observed. In particular, the Project Management Officer shall work closely with the Regional Development Council.

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Section 4. Any provisions of related issuances contrary to this Order are hereby suspended.

Section 5. This Order shall take effect immediately.

Done in the City of Manila, this 17th day of September, 2004.

(Sgd.) **GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO**

By the President:

(Sgd.) **EDUARDO ERMITA**

Executive Secretary

*Source:* **Malacañang Records Office**

Office of the President of the Philippines. (2004). *[Executive Order Nos.: 301 - 400]*. Manila: Malacañang Records Office.





President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo leads the groundbreaking rites on February 18, 2008 for the 4-classroom school building of the Bangkal Resettlement Site Elementary School in Barangay Bangkal, in Malolos Bulacan. Also in photo are (from left) Bulacan Governor, Joselito Mendoza, Representative Victoria Sy Alvarado of the First District of Bulacan, Education Undersecretary Ramon Bacani, and Bulacan Vice Governor Wilhelmino Alvarado.











